

The Unofficial Manual for Zorin 17 Core

by

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(E. & O.E.)

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(amended from the Unofficial Manual for Zorin 15 Core)

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Acknowledgements

The Zorin Team.
Cover image taken from a plymouth theme available from gnome-look.org, https://www.gnome-look.org/p/2105968

The Z logo I embellished with fire effect, ‘Zorin on fire’! using Inkscape and GIMP.
Wallpaper added to collection:
https://www.pling.com/p/1394577
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Introduction/Foreword (whatever …)

Welcome to the wonderful world of ZorinOS where it is hoped you too will enjoy this beautifully garnered Operating System. I first 'discovered' Zorin when it was at release 4 (around 2010?) which led to my first installation video of triple booting Windows™ XP/Windows™ 7/Zorin 4 64-bit: (http://www.veoh.com/watch/v283328437Pyp3Byy)

I have been fortunate to have experience of GNU/Linux since 2002, introduced to me by a brilliant School IT Technician, named Chris, who gave me Knoppix 2.9 – Wow! an OS that had a human voice to alert you to the fact the system was up and running – and not even installed!

I was determined that Zorin should not go the way of Freespire, which until I discovered Zorin, was the only community-based OS to have a Windows™ feel (apart from the commercial parent, Linspire, which rose and fell by the hands of the same man, Michael Robertson.) Having joined the forum, initially in 2010, and had been providing answers to unanswered threads, after 2 weeks I suddenly found myself becoming a moderator! A great honour and great responsibility. I hope I have been able to enrich users experience of ZorinOS over the years.

System Requirements:

https://help.zorin.com/docs/getting-started/system-requirements/

Now to the nitty-gritty. Before going any further, to quote **Wolfman**, **"Preparation and planning prevent poor performance!** 😜**"**

subtitled "Fail to Plan, Plan to Fail!"

To dual-booters, before doing anything to your Other OS, make sure it is up-to-date and you have a backup of your entire system, (at the very least your data) in the event something should go wrong, or to quote Admiral Jack Denver **"Anything could happen in the next half hour!"**. For complete system backup my preferred paid for option is Acronis (for Windows™) (https://www.acronis.com/en-gb/personal/true-image-comparison/), and best free option for simplicity of use, is rescuezilla (https://rescuezilla.com/). The pros of Acronis is that you can 'squash' a hard drive image to varying degrees of compression, but primarily its advantage is that it can do proportional image copying from a large to small drive and vice versa but only works for creating backups of Winidows, rescuezilla has to be the same size of drive or bigger – it can not clone proportionally. There are other free ones too, Easeus (https://www.easeus.com/) and Paragon (https://www.paragon-software.com/free/br-free/) to name but two - remember these are Windows™ applications and no guarantee they will ever work in respect of GNU/Linux. These are Windows™ specific options, only rescuezilla is a cross-platform backup tool.

Whilst we are on the subject of backup, System Repair software is something to also have present: If you have Windows™ 7 or higher, make yourself a System Repair Disc now before anything else, especially notebook users who may not have access to Windows™ Media – Just enter 'Repair Disc' in the Windows™ Menu Search bar, it should be the first thing to come up in results. System Rescue CD (https://www.system-rescue-cd.org/), Ultimate Boot CD (https://www.ultimatebootcd.com/) are excellent tools for issues with booting Windows. For data recovery I would only trust one piece of software following a trial of its demo (I still don't own a copy): GetDataBack for NTFS (et.al.) (https://www.runtime.org/data-recovery-software.htm)

If you are an existing GNU/Linux or Zorin OS user, backup your '/home' folder/s (folders if more than one user) and be sure to use Ctrl+ H to show all your hidden folders to ensure your settings of currently installed apps are preserved. Please note that you cannot preserve your Printers, just as you can't in that other OS, and if you installed 3rd party applications, make sure you have backed up any .deb file or .tar.gz or other file that contains applications from sources other than from the Zorin Software Channel or alternative Package Manager (e.g., Synaptic).

Update your system!: When was the last time you bothered to update any of your manufacturers hardware drivers, in particular the BIOS? Some members of the Zorin forum in the past have had issues with installation, quickly resolved by an update to the Motherboard's BIOS. Also be sure you follow the manufacturer's guidelines on how to update the BIOS. On some earlier systems (early 00's) some manufacturer/s were offering an update via Windows – bad move – you could so easily, er hem, trash the BIOS undertaking such a route! Those wanting to dual-boot should use that Other OS's Disk Management Utility to shrink the main system partition to allow room for Zorin to reside, and never put any GNU/Linux on a drive at the start of the drive if dual booting as you are opening yourself up to potential future woes. Finally, if you are looking at dual-booting you should ALWAYS choose the 'Something Else' method. Tutorial video on dual-booting with Windows™ 7 here: https://vimeo.com/110085401

Dual booting tutorial for Windows™ 8/(10) here (extra special thanks to Matthew Moore): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlTgaWs9BD0

Advice on where to get Zorin:

https://zorin.com/os/download/

Validation of downloaded .iso:

When downloading DO NOT use any Download Accelerator Managers as this has been known to cause corrupt downloads.

Once you have downloaded the .iso, check its integrity (checksum) by using either SHA256 (https://itsfoss.com/checksum-tools-guide-linux/ this useful walkthrough will show you how to use gtkhash tool) if you are using GNU/Linux.

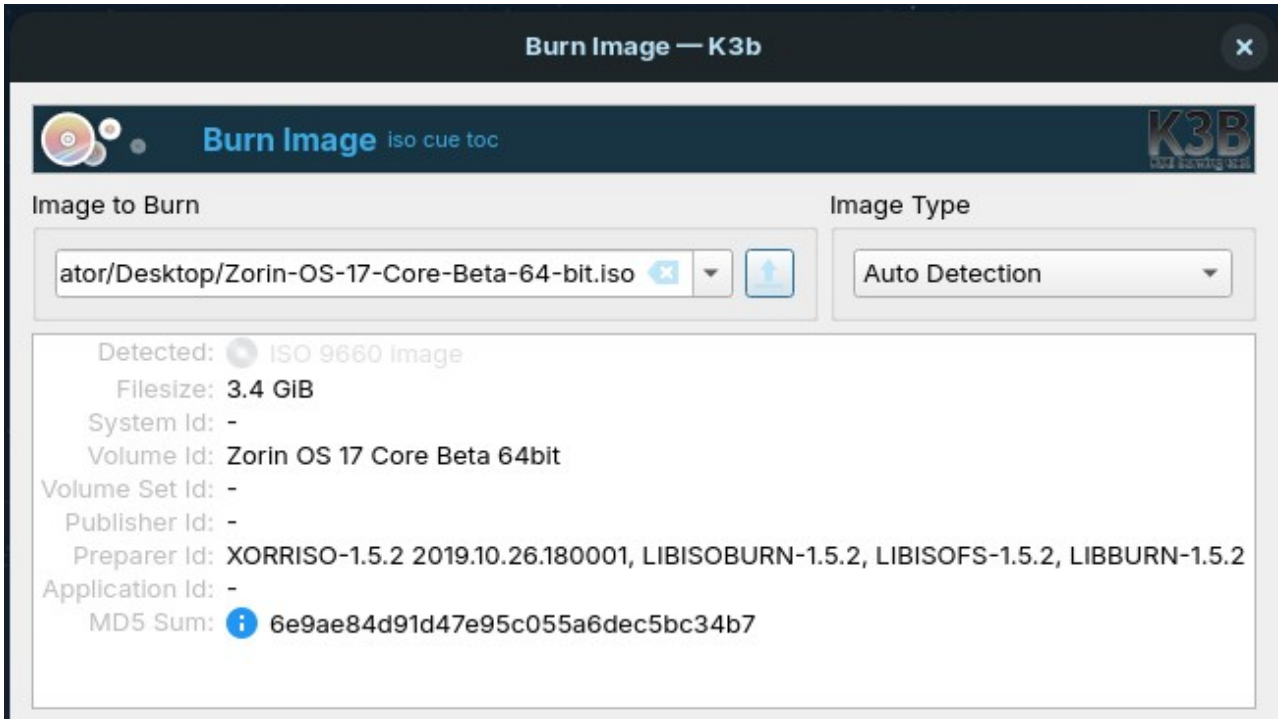
For Windows users download Raymond's utility from here:

https://www.softpedia.com/get/Security/Security-Related/MD5-and-SHA-1-Checksum-Utility.shtml

Correct SHA256 checksums for
Zorin OS 16.3 Core 64-bit
Zorin OS 16.3 Lite 64-bit
Zorin OS 16.3 Pro 64-bit
Zorin OS 16.3 Pro Lite 64-bit
Zorin OS 16.3 Education 64-bit
Zorin OS 16.3 Eduction Lite 64-bit
Zorin OS 17 Core 64-bit

can be found here

If you install K3b CD/DVD burner this will generate the MD5 sum of the iso:



If you are going to burn a DVD for Zorin in Windows, I can only recommend one product and that is imgburn – get it from here: https://ninite.com

When using image burn, burn at the SLOWEST possible speed – this used to be 1x but most modern burners slowest speed these days is 8x. So even if you selected 1x, imgburn is smart enough to automatically adjust to your burner's speed.

If you intend to install via USB/Thumb Drive, format it to FAT32 File System and then follow the guide here:

https://help.zorin.com/docs/getting-started/install-zorin-os/

or alternatively if using Windows use ‘Rufus’:

https://www.techrepublic.com/article/pro-tip-use-rufus-to-create-a-bootable-usb-drive-to-install-almost-any-os/

And one other option, Ventoy – it works for me!:

https://www.ventoy.net/en/index.html

Whether installing alongside an existing Operating System or on its own, I always select 'something else' or 'advanced' dependent on what GNU/Linux system I am installing – it means you are in control with less likelihood of things going wrong.

Changing the Boot order:

Now once you have your chosen media you will need to change your Boot order from HDD/SSD to DVD/USB. This on grey machines (system builds that are not manufacture branded) will require booting to the BIOS and going to the 'Boot Options' page, and changing the order of boot sequence to the device that holds the image of Zorin. Some motherboards in the past have had a default key of F8 which is a bit bizarre from a Windows™ users perspective!

On Dell machines it is F2 to enter the BIOS, F12 to do a one time change in the boot order, For HP PCs (https://support.hp.com/in-en/document/c00364979), HP Notebooks (https://www.support.hp.com/us-en/document/c01443326/), Toshiba (https://support.toshiba.com/sscontent?docId=98080545), Acer (https://uk.answers.acer.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/7550/~/changing-boot-order) Asus (https://www.asus.com/us/support/FAQ/1008277/) Lenovo (https://support.lenovo.com/gb/en/solutions/ht117661)

How to manage UEFI when installing Zorin:

https://www.howtogeek.com/56958/htg-explains-how-uefi-will-replace-the-bios/

https://altgov2.org/csm-vs-uefi/

Understanding the difference between MBR (Master Boot Record) and the newer GPT (GUID Partition Table)

(https://www.howtogeek.com/193669/whats-the-difference-between-gpt-and-mbr-when-partitioning-a-drive/)

A warning to Notebook (Laptop) owners!:

I can only speak of HP Note/Netbooks but this may also be true of others. Basically what HP does is make a System Partition – this would normally get created with Windows™ 8/10, and appears at the start of the hard drive. Next comes the partition with Windows on it (C:\ drive), then a 'system restore/drivers' partition, and lastly media recovery creator to create DVD's to reinstall the original OS to the Notebook. All of these partitions, even the FAT32 ones, are flagged as Primary Partitions – this prevents the installation of any other Operating System so you need to make some hard decisions on what to do. My advice would be to create the reinstall media and save in a safe place then delete that partition which does that. Regardless of how many drives you have, you can only ever have 4 primary Partitions. You will need only ONE primary partition to be created for Zorin after you have used Windows Drive Manager to shrink C:\ drive.

Basic manual formatting and installation:

1. One Primary partition, formatted to Ext4 FS (File System) to hold the 'root' system - '/' - 80 Gb or 81920 Mib should be more than adequate.

2. An extended partition after the Primary, at the END of which you create a 'swap area' equivalent to double the amount of Physical Memory you have installed in your machine. No need to specify a file system as due to the very nature of creating a 'swap area' it knows what to do.

3. Whatever is left at the start of the Extended partition, format to Ext4, and mark it as '/home' - this is where all your Personal Files (and other users '/home' folders) will reside, including any Windows applications in the hidden '.wine' folder.

4. If you are installing to a complex OS structure, you may need to create a '/boot' partition of 512 Mb BEFORE the '/' partition – as this is where you will store GRUB if you intend to use the 'non-traditional method' using EasyBCD (the free one) from NeoSmart Technologies (https://neosmart.net/EasyBCD/). It ('/boot') is also useful on Asus eeePc's that had the 10 Gb split SSD where Windows™ could not be put on the larger part – well you can with GNU/Linux!

Please note that EasyBCD cannot be used with Windows™ 11.

Booting from a USB on a Notebook/Desktop whose BIOS prevents booting from USB:

Possible Solution 1: Check for BIOS updates from your dedicated manufacturer website (PC, Notebook, Motherboard).

Possible Solution 2: (You will need a floppy drive/external floppy drive for this or an external/optical drive):

https://www.plop.at/en/bootmanagers.html

Only Zorin to be installed?:

If Zorin is going to be the only system on your device, then choose the first installation option where it wants to wipe everything out. If you have a Note/Net-book you may want to backup your entire drive/system using either Acronis or free system backup software and an external Hard Drive before commencing. Particular care should be taken if attempting to install to an eMMC device – these are worse than Celeron and Sempron powered devices as they have limited storage space (normally 32 Gb) and limited memory (2 Gb) and if one component fails on the main processing board, the machine becomes dead as nothing can be replaced/repaired. So avoid Chromebooks and their adversarial spin-offs like the plague! If you have the spare cash to buy a machine that is dedicated to run GNU/Linux then I advise you to take a look at the following potential suppliers – but read reviews before taking the plunge:

GNU/Linux dedicated Hardware Manufacturers/Suppliers:

Respect Your Freedom (RYF) Certified:
(https://www.fsf.org/resources/hw/endorsement/respects-your-freedom)

Others: https://linuxpreloaded.com/

https://www.cyberciti.biz/hardware/laptop-computers-with-linux-installed-or-preloaded/

United Kingdom:

https://www.entroware.com/store/desktops

https://www.entroware.com/store/laptops

https://minifree.org/ (ship worldwide)

https://zorinos.com/computers/ (https://starlabs.systems/?rfsn=2798196.ef7ef&utm_source=zorin)

Netherlands: https://zorinos.com/computers/ (http://bit.ly/novacustomzorin)

Australia:

https://www.linuxnow.com.au/dsintro.html#standarddesktops

USA (Desktop, Notebook and hardware components and peripherals – ship worldwide)

https://www.thinkpenguin.com/

https://system76.com/

https://zareason.com/

https://puri.sm/products/

If you must:

https://www.dell.com/en-us/work/shop/cty/pdp/spd/xps-13-9370-laptop?view=configurations

Before you make any purchase, search for video reviews, owner reviews before making your choice should you go down a dedicated GNU/Linux route – you will pay a premium above a mass produced device for that Other OS but you will be guaranteed that GNU/Linux will run on them. If you are considering purchasing any machine, particularly Notebooks, that currently has Windows™ 10 on them, ask the vendor to boot into the BIOS to see if you are able to disable Fast Boot and Windows™ Boot Manager. If you can't then don't buy it.

1. Booting your Zorin media in 'live' mode.

This is what the initial boot screen should look like before you start.



There are no options to select unlike Zorin 12.x other then selecting ENTER to boot your desired choice or press the TAB key to amend the boot parameters, such as nomodeset, acpi=off etc. During boot you should see the ‘Z’ logo briefly, then this screen:



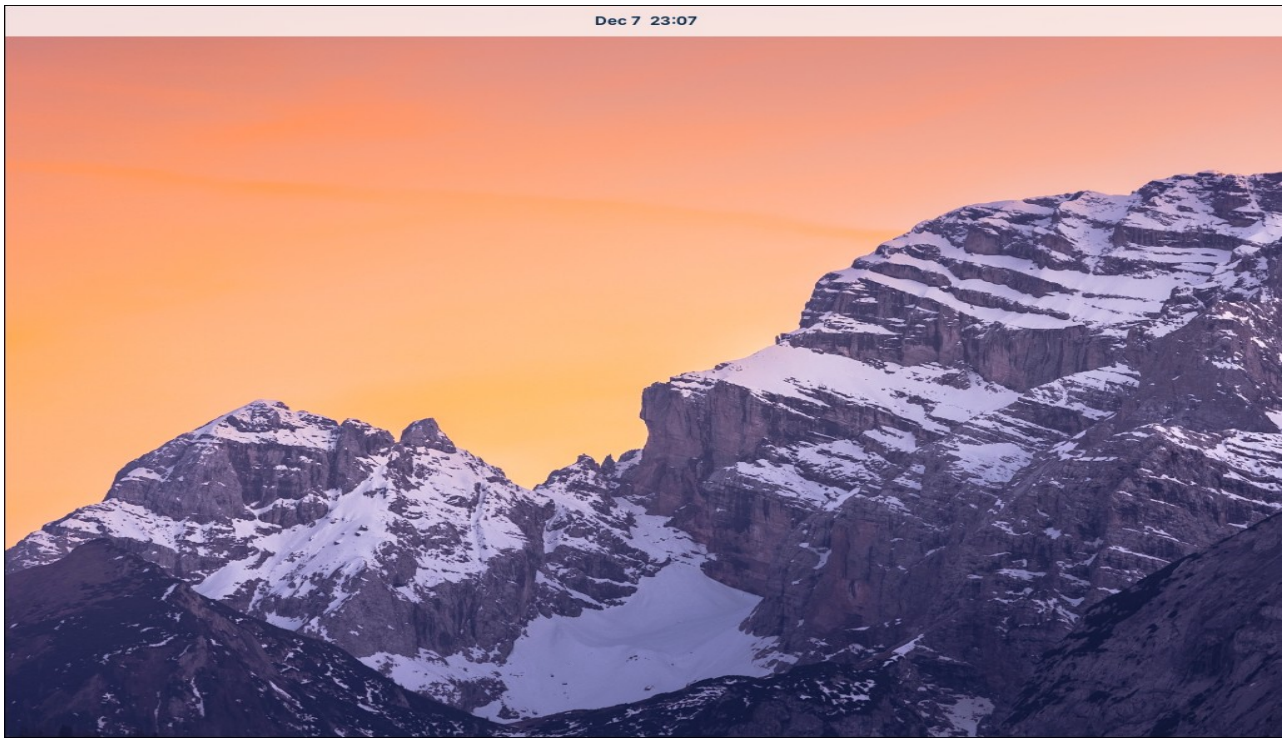
If you wait for the integrity check to complete, you will see this screen on successful completion:



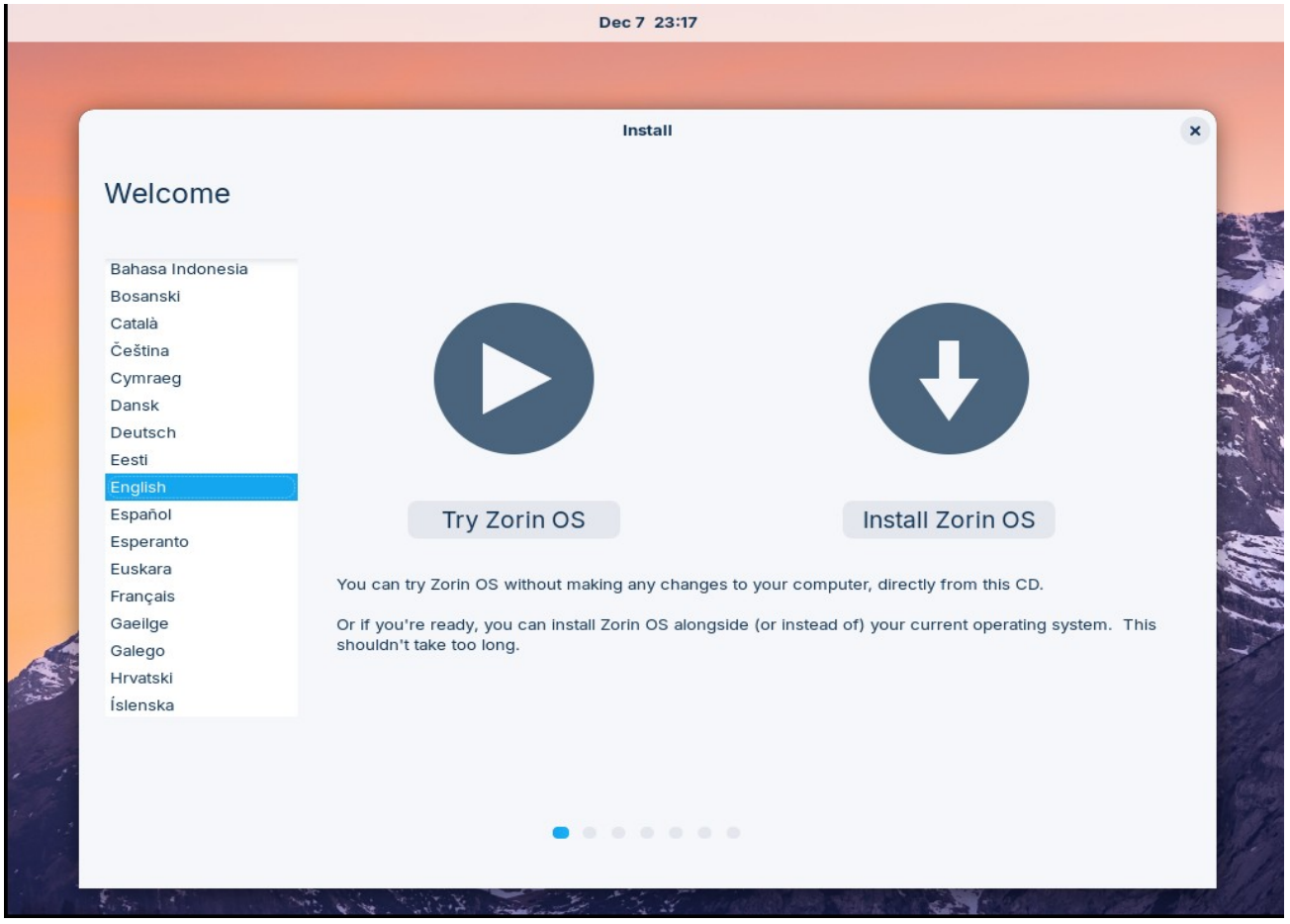
Next you will see the new 'ZORIN' logo appear, flying in from left to right quickly, letter by letter to make this:



You should eventually see the following image, the default wallpaper:



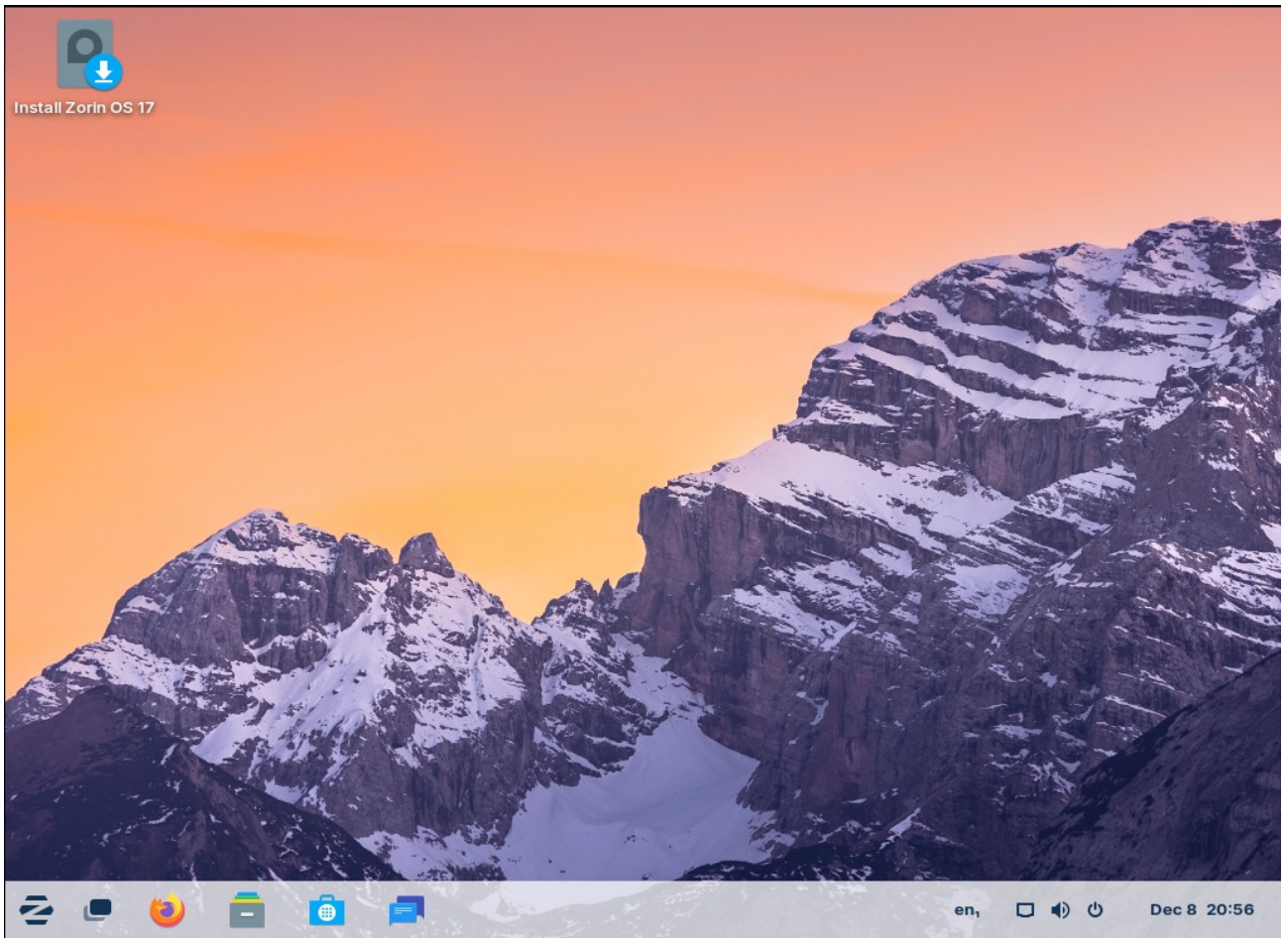
Then these options appear, together with the login sound:



Notice you get a second bite at the cherry to 'Try Zorin' or 'Install Zorin' – note also in the left pane is a list of languages – choose the one that meets your locale before proceeding – you should still opt for 'Try Zorin' to discover how well it is compatible with your system. Please bear in mind that Hardware is generally manufactured to Windows™ specifications which is a Closed Source Operating System, which means none of it's code is freely available to alter to meet the needs of GNU/Linux users or their hardware driver needs. You need to click on the 'Try Zorin' button – the screen will momentarily go black and shortly afterward the Desktop appears.

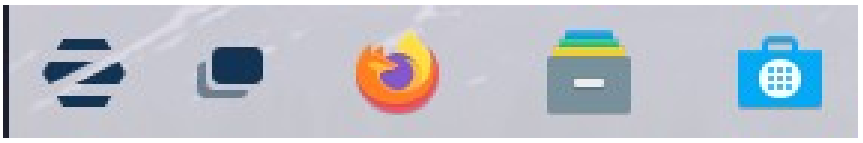
2. The Live Desktop – a guided tour.

This is the default desktop image (changing the image for something else will be covered later under 'Settings'.

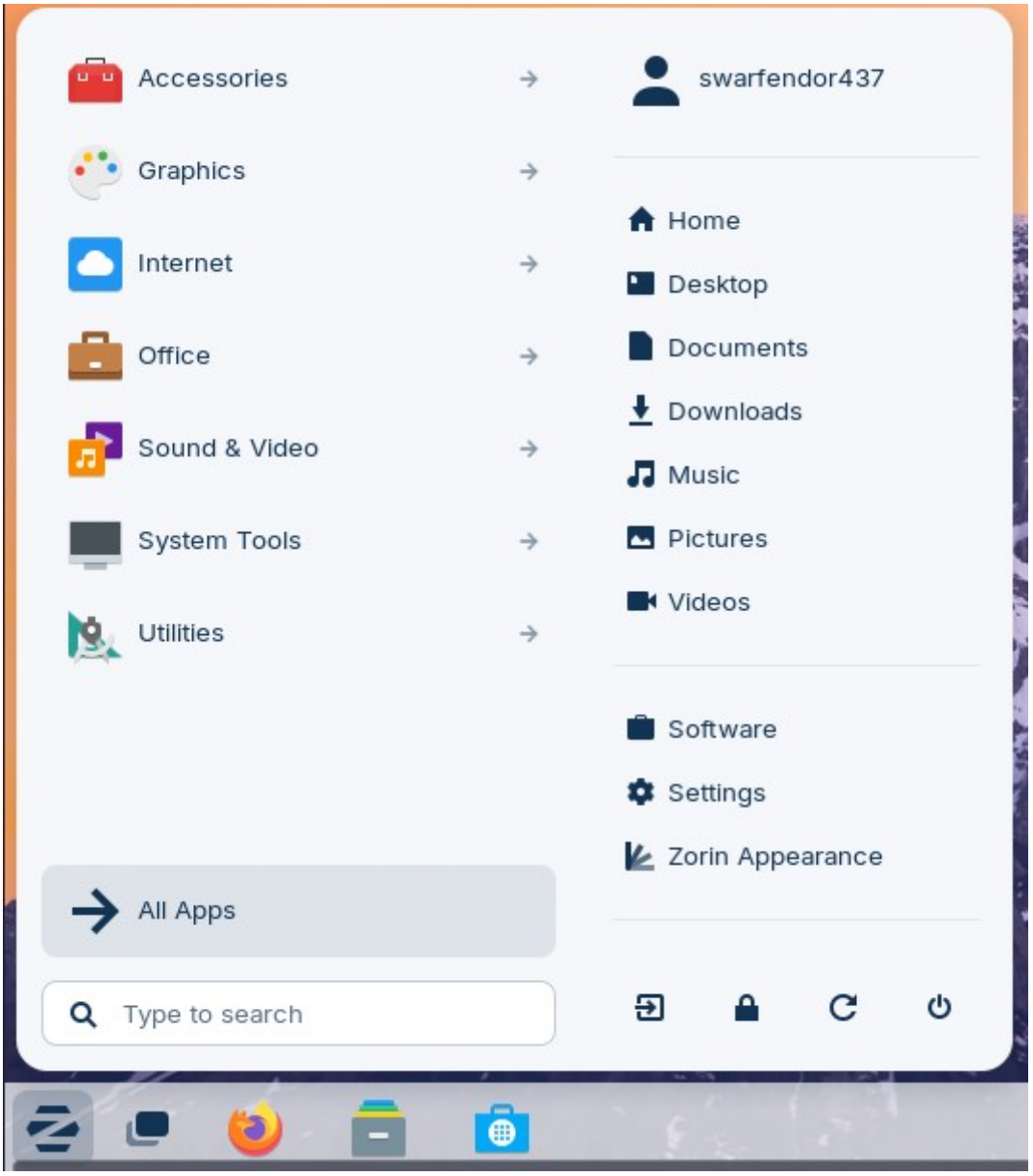


First up the **'Dash'** (formerly called **'Panel'**) at the bottom of the screen comprises of the Menu (indicated by the ‘Z’) immediately to the right is the **Overview** button, followed by the default Browser, **Firefox** (Flatpak edition), **Files** (formerly Nautilus [File Explorer]), and finally, **Software** channel icon. On the far right is the equivalent, but very much different to, the System Tray that can be found on Windows.

The Dash (formerly ‘Panel’) - left side.

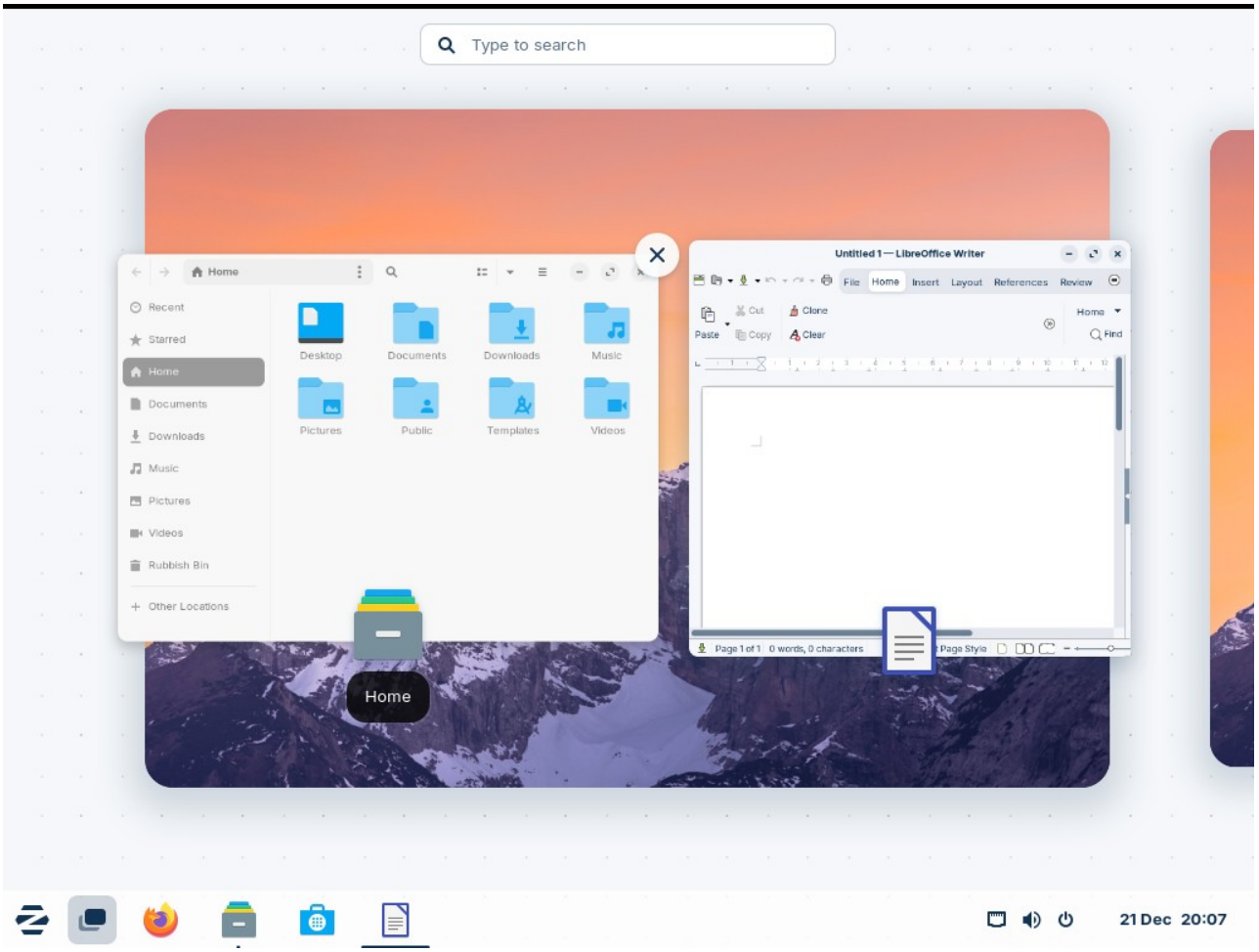


From left to right we have the **Z Menu**, **Activities Overview**, **Firefox** (Web Browser), **Files** (File Explorer), **Software** (Application Store).

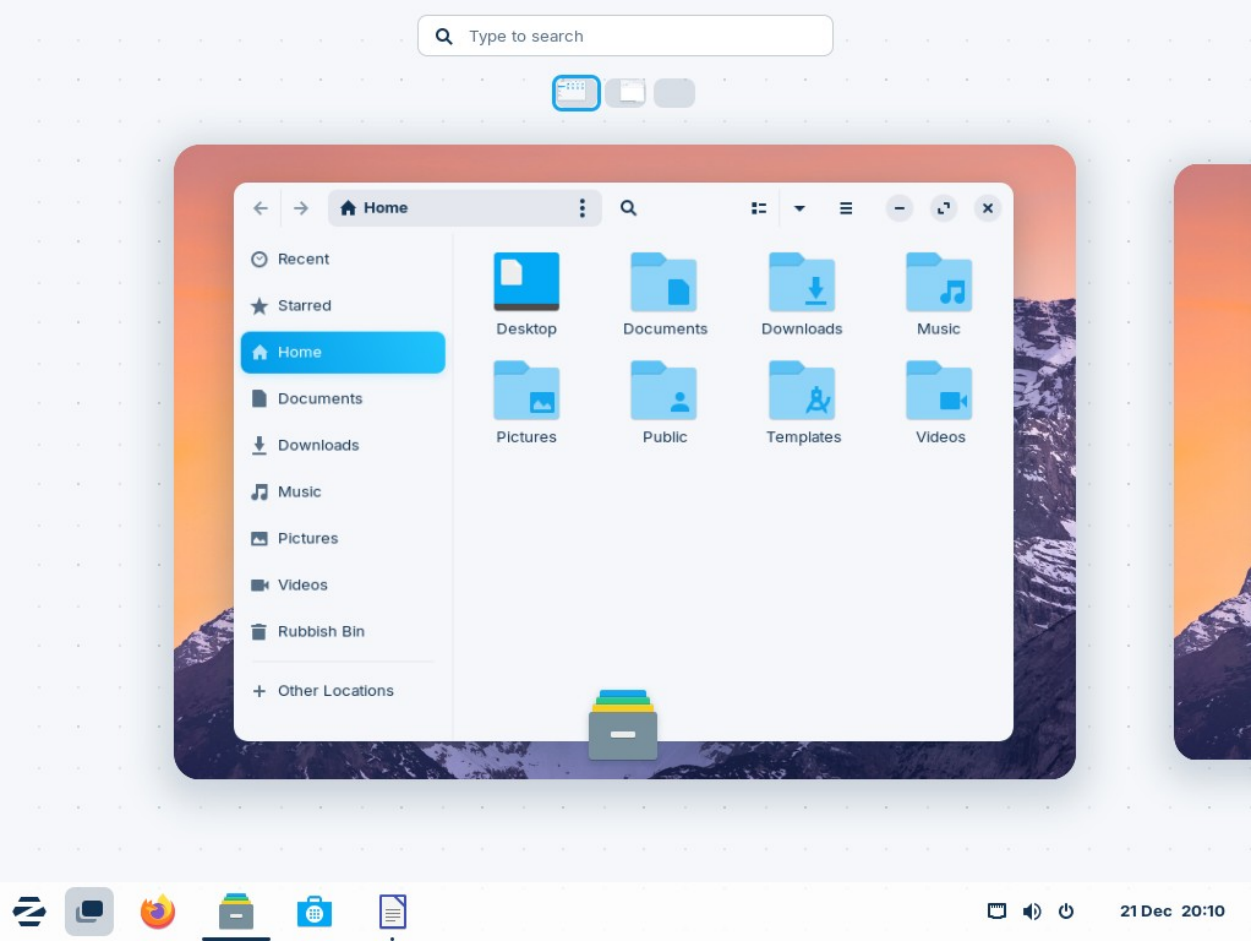


The Z Menu icon - Left Clicking on this launches the familiar Zorin Menu.

The Activities Overview Icon - left clicking this will show all open Windows on the **Desktop**:

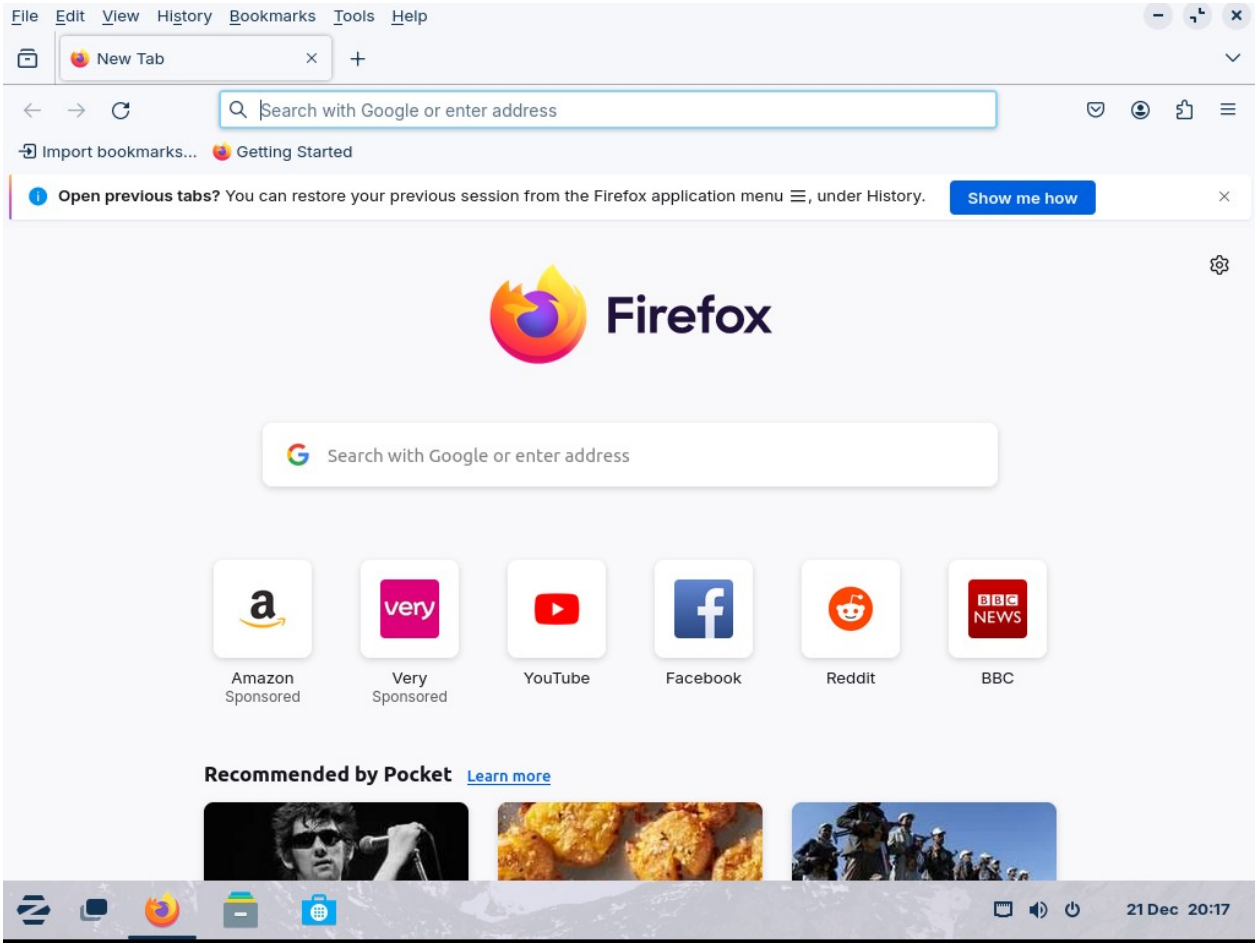


Notice you can see the edge of another screen to the right - this is the second **workspace** allowing you to have a different application open on each workspace which you can easily toggle between. Whilst you are in **Activities Overview** mode you can drag open windows to the next adjacent worksapce. When you do this, you will notice that a third empty workspace is created as indicated by the little windows at the top of the screen as shown at the top of the next page:



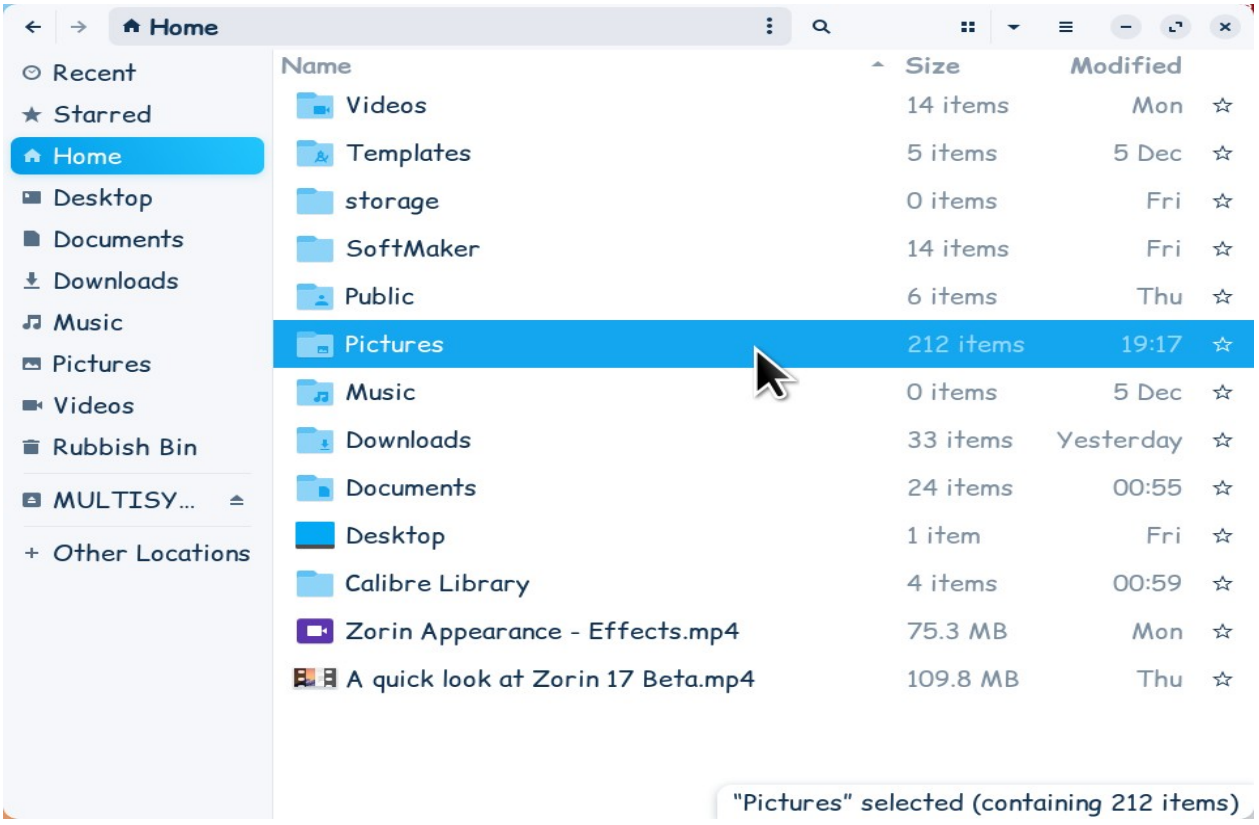
You can use the wheel on your mouse to navigate between workspaces, or alternatively, use Ctrl+ Alt+ L or R arrow (cursor) keys.

Firefox - Web browser.

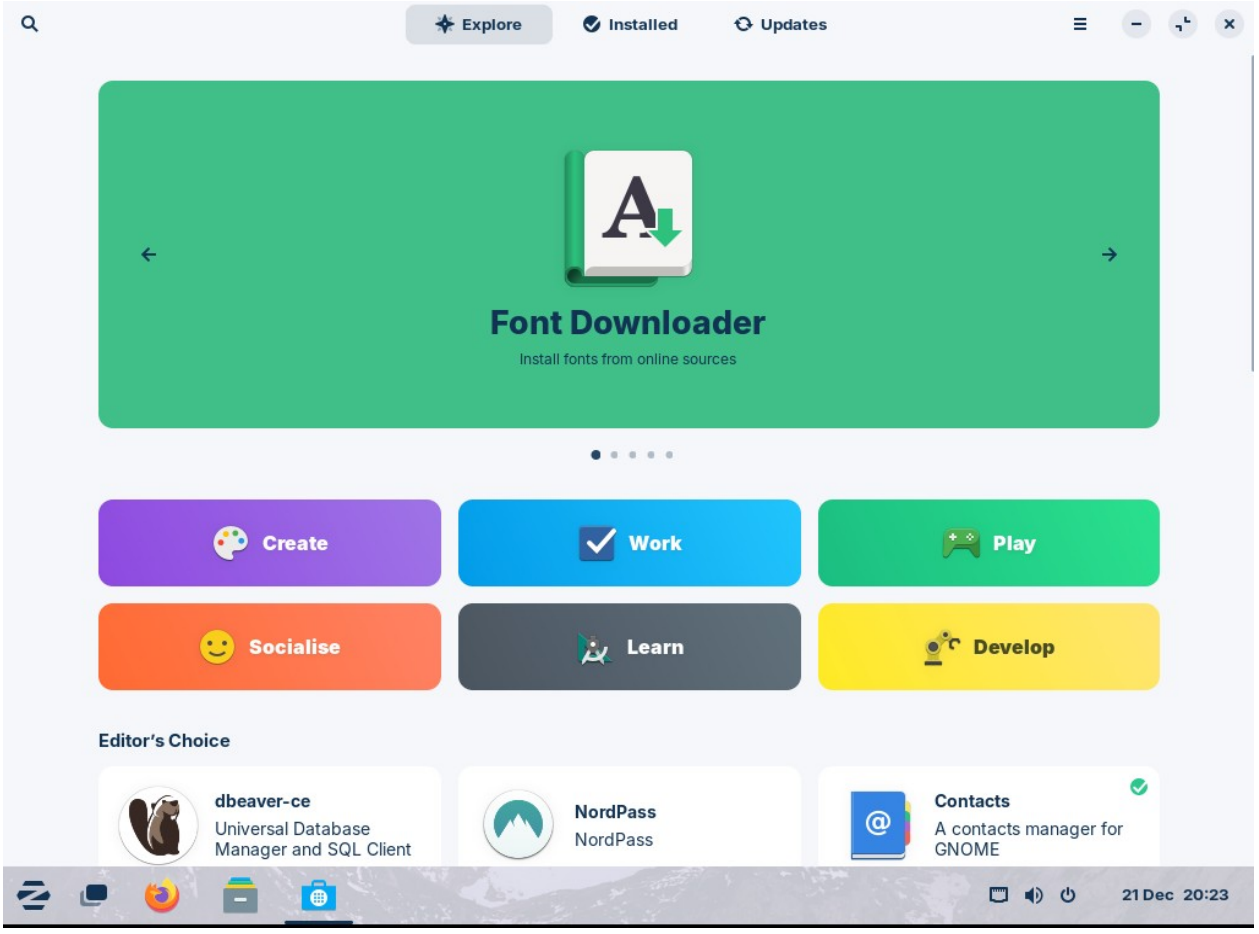


Notice that the Firefox icon on the **Dash** has a line underneath it - this indicates that you have the application open and one window/tab open. Opening a new window will show 2 lines, one long one, a space, and the start of another line. Floating your mouse cursor over the Firefox icon will create two tiny pop-up windows - move your pointer to the window you wish to view.

Files (File Explorer):



Software - This is where you can install applications.

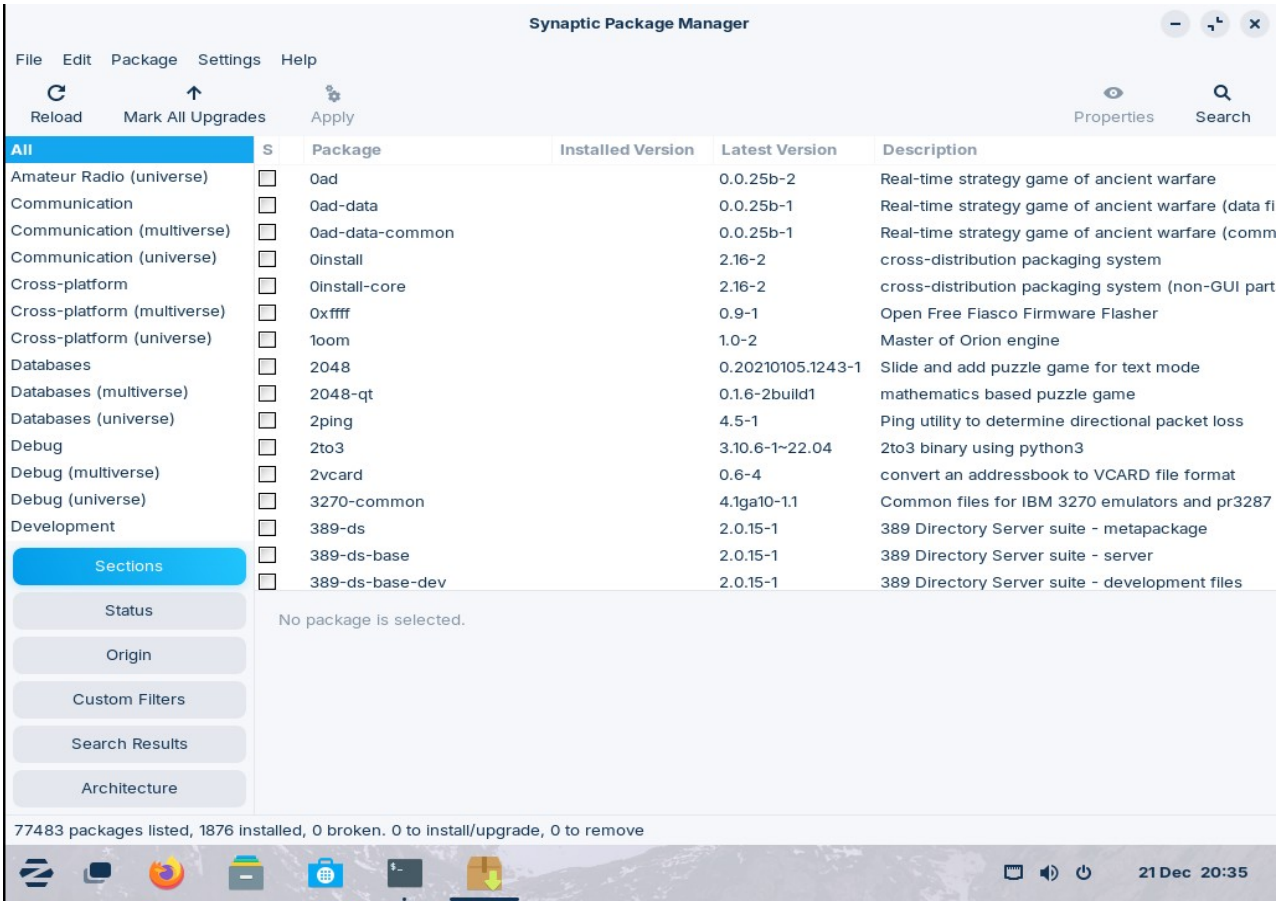


But this is not the only source of **Software**. Other options include downloading applications from the official website of an application producer, or an alternative option, if you don't wish to use sandboxed applications which are either **flatpak**, **snap**, from the **Software** application or an **App Image**, you can use **Synaptic (Package Manager**) [but there are some applications in the Software channel that offer more than one option, including APT packages - the latest Zorin release is a big improvement in this area.] My preferred method of installing **Synaptic** is via the terminal (Ctrl+ Alt+ T or Menu | Utilities | Terminal).

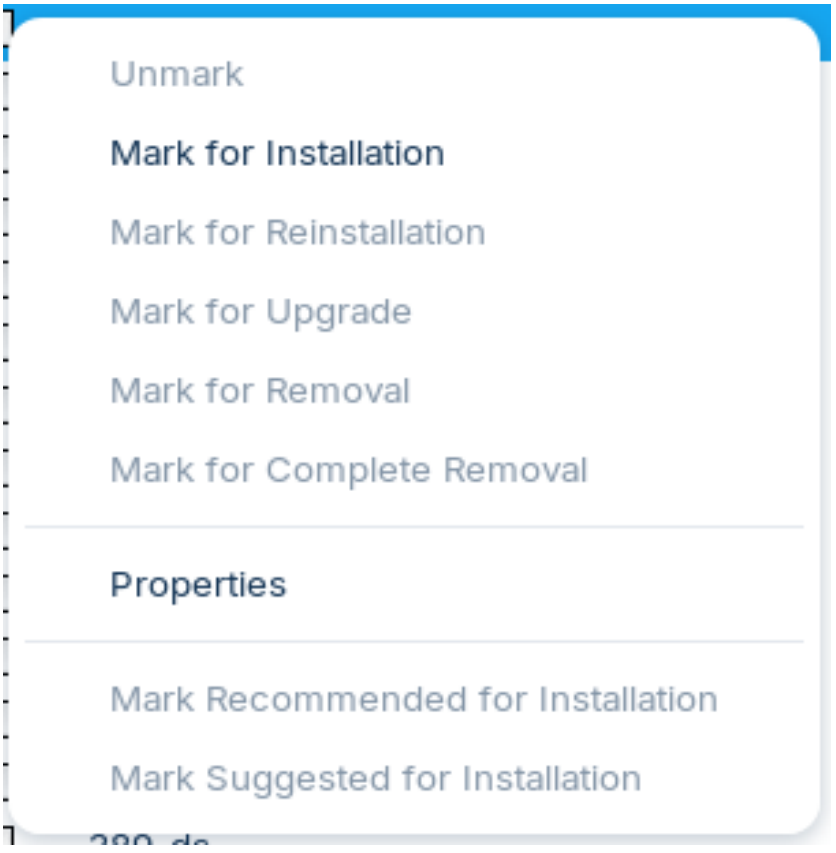
```
sudo apt install synaptic
```

You will need to supply your login password to elevate yourself to root, or better still, when you install Zorin, create an 'administrator' account, then yourself as a **Standard** user - installing applications would then need the password of the 'administrator' account, just like that other OS! You can stay in the terminal to launch **Synaptic** because you have already elevated the terminal to 'root' privileges, just enter - sudo synaptic.

When you launch **Synaptic Package Manager** it brings up this interface:

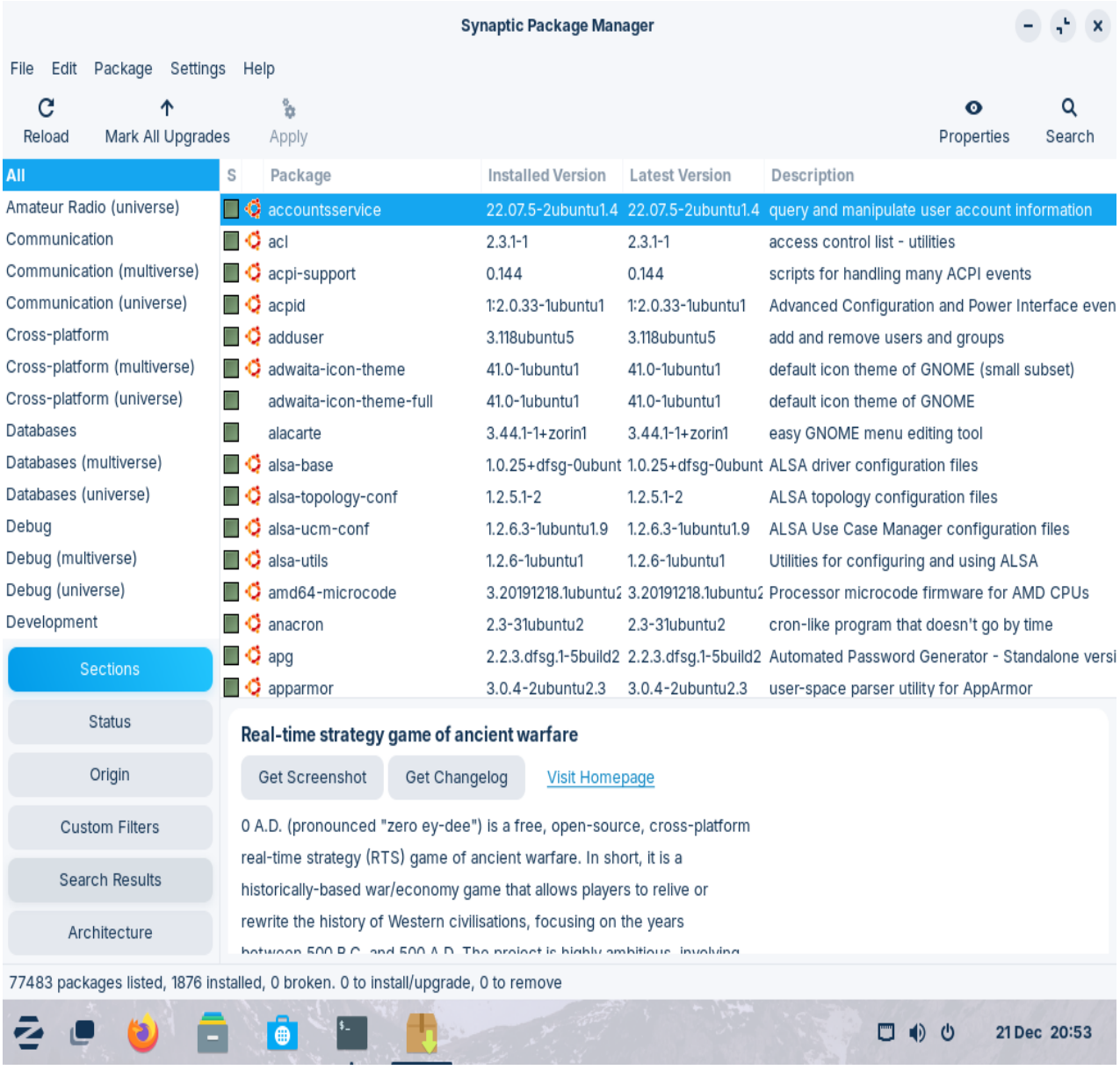


Synaptic is split into 3 main panes, with a Menu Bar at the top of the window which has ‘Reload’, ‘Mark All Upgrades’ and ‘Apply’ (greyed out) buttons beneath it. To the far right on the same line as these buttons, ‘Properties’ (greyed out), and ‘Search’ (magnifying glass).
The left hand pane comprises of different **Sections**, laid out in alphabetical order. Above all the sections is the all encompassing word **All** which basically that if you placed your cursor in the pane to the right, you would have a very long scrolling time to view all the available applications. By far the easiest method is to use the **Search** function (please remember that any Software application only looks for GNU/Linux applications, not Windows or Mac or Android apps!) When you select an application with the left mouse button in the top right pane, a description of that application appears in the bottom right pane. If you wish to install an application that you are interested in having, right-click the little square to the left of the application name which will bring up these options:

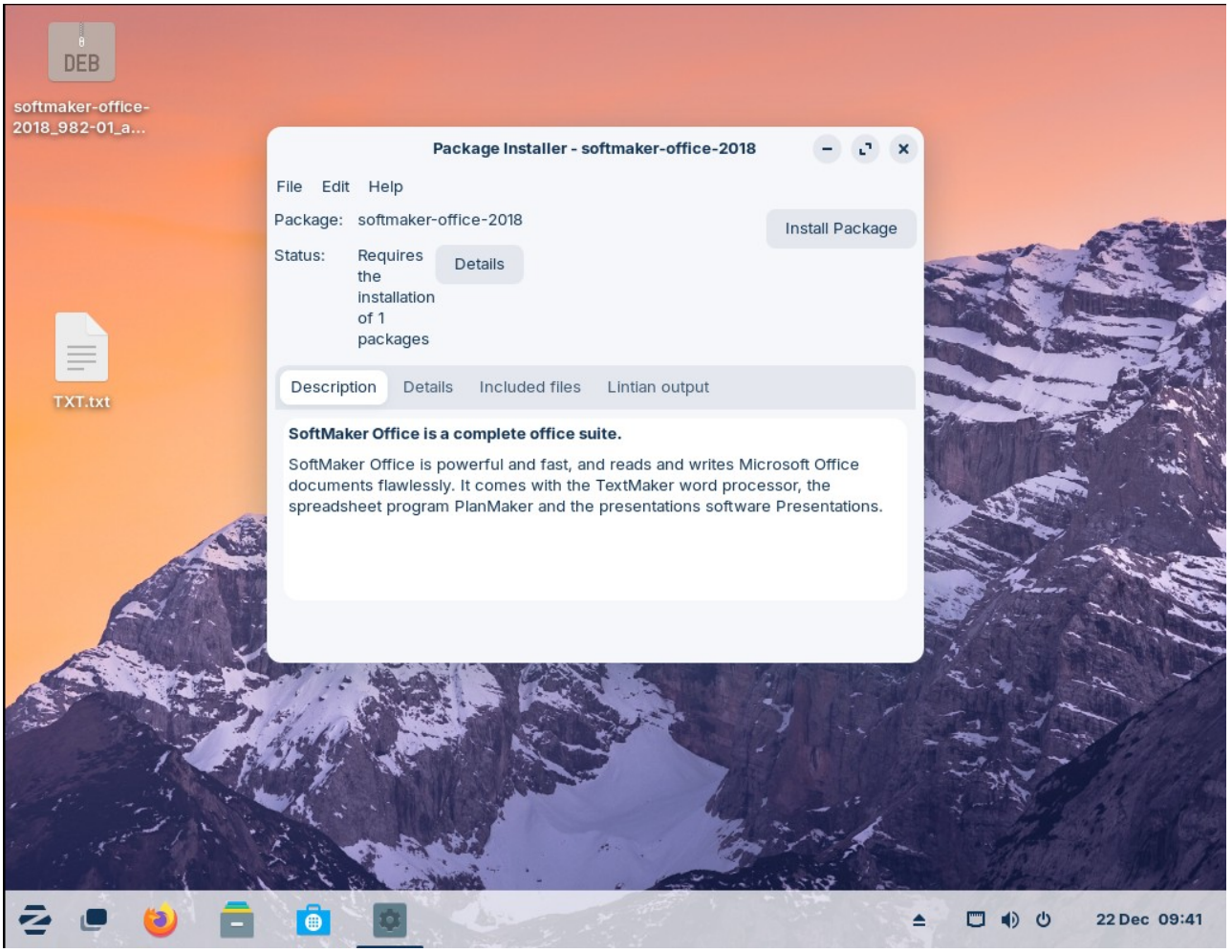


To install, select **Mark for Installation**, then click on the **Apply** button - this will begin the installation process.

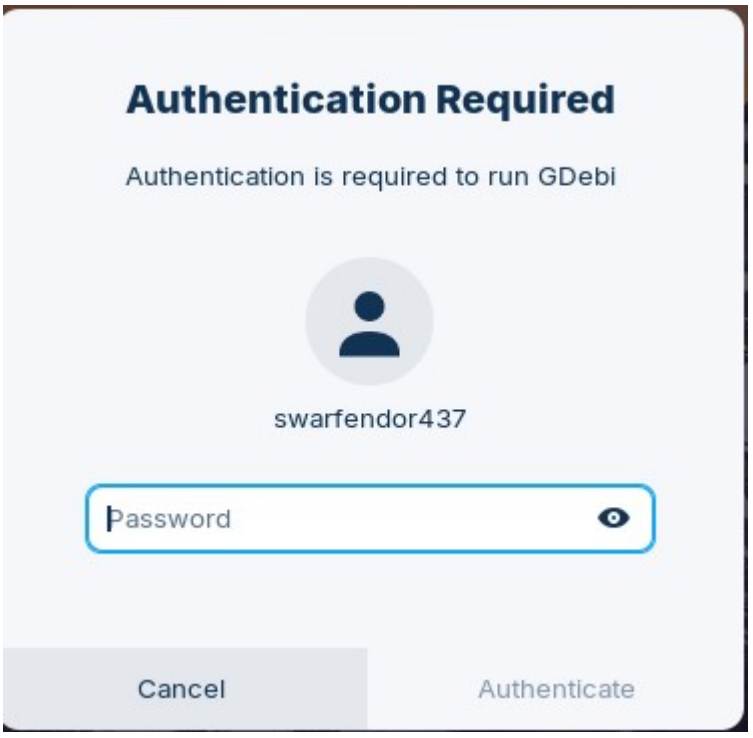
At the very top of the column of little squares you will see the letter **S**. If you click on this, all of the applications that are installed in Zorin will be brought to the top of the list in alphabetical order.



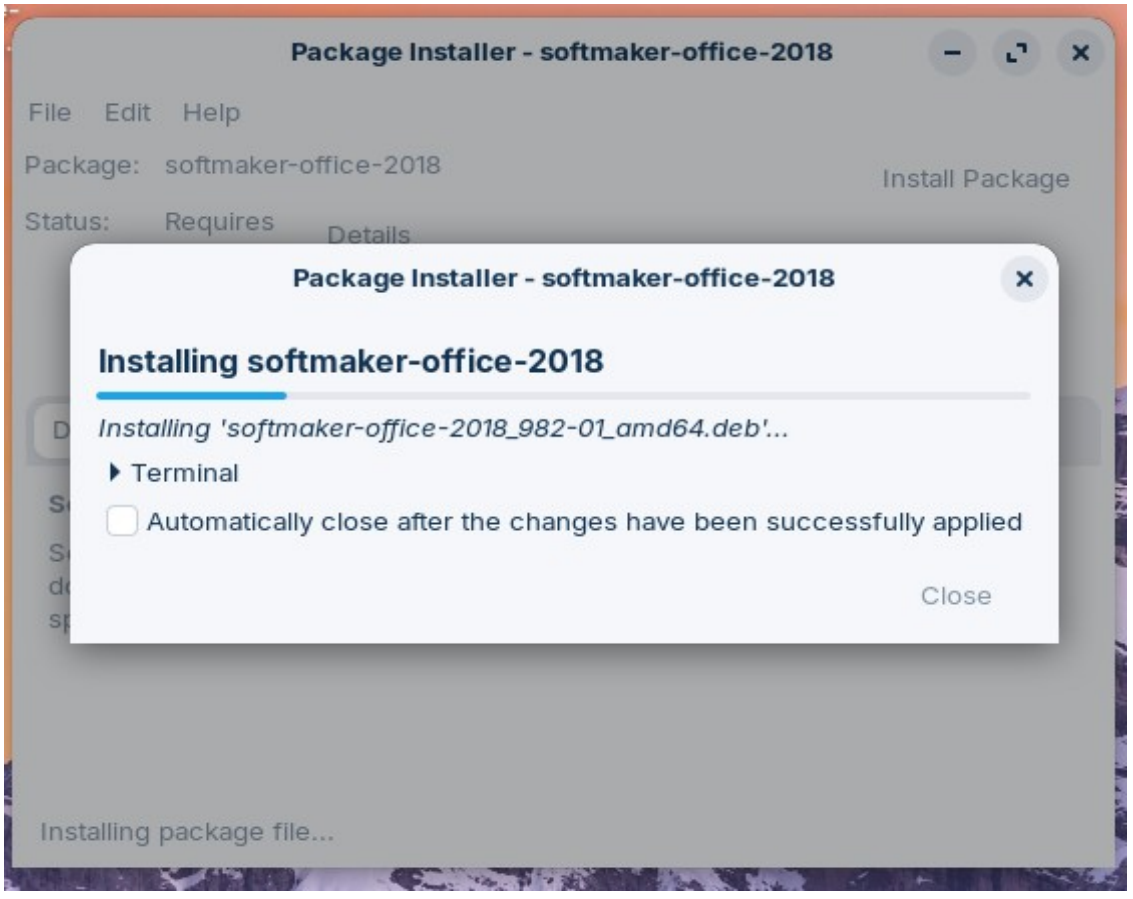
For 3rd party applications, for example, FreeOffice from SoftMaker or the paid version, SoftMakerOffice 2024 Professional .deb file, then a useful utility is **gdebi** (gnome .deb installer).



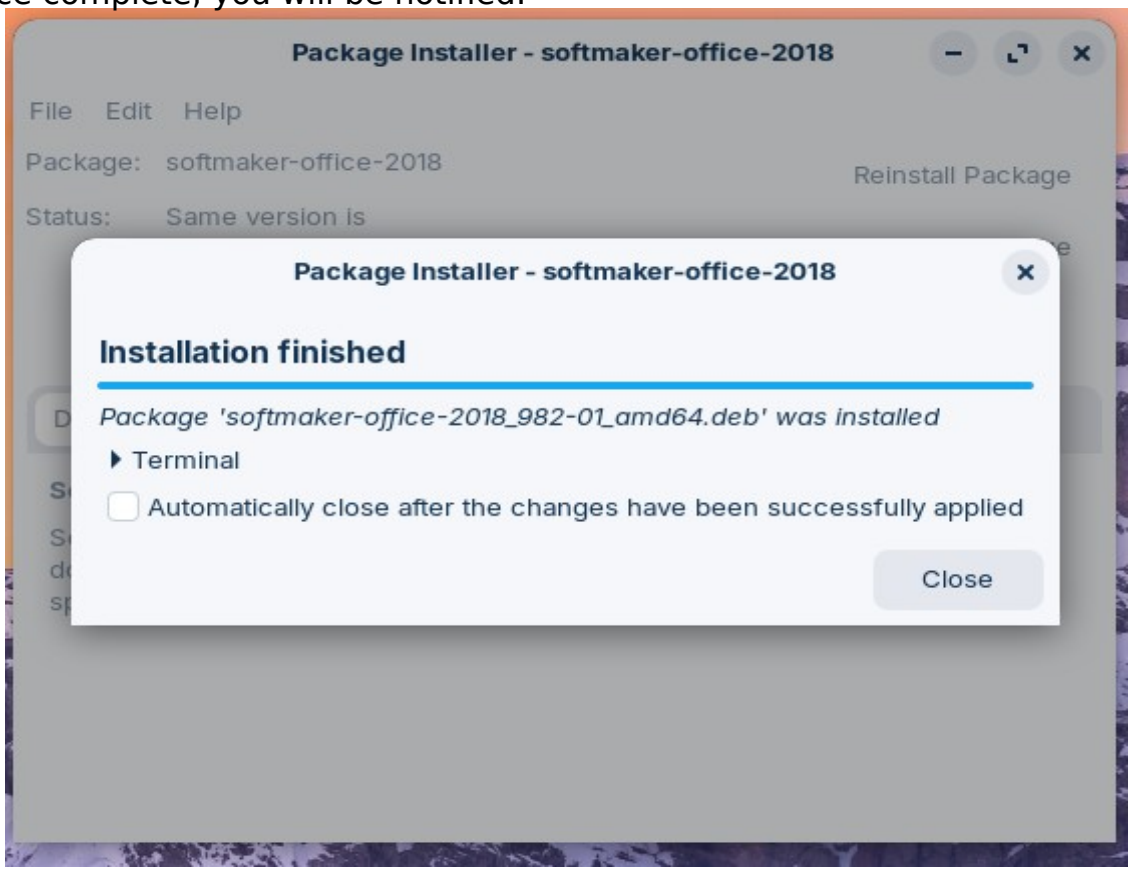
The nice thing about **gdebi** is that it checks that all dependencies are present, and it also lets you know if additional packages are going to be installed. When you click on the **Install Package** button you will be asked for your password to elevate you to ‘root’, unless you have made a separate ‘administrator’ account, then you would enter that password.



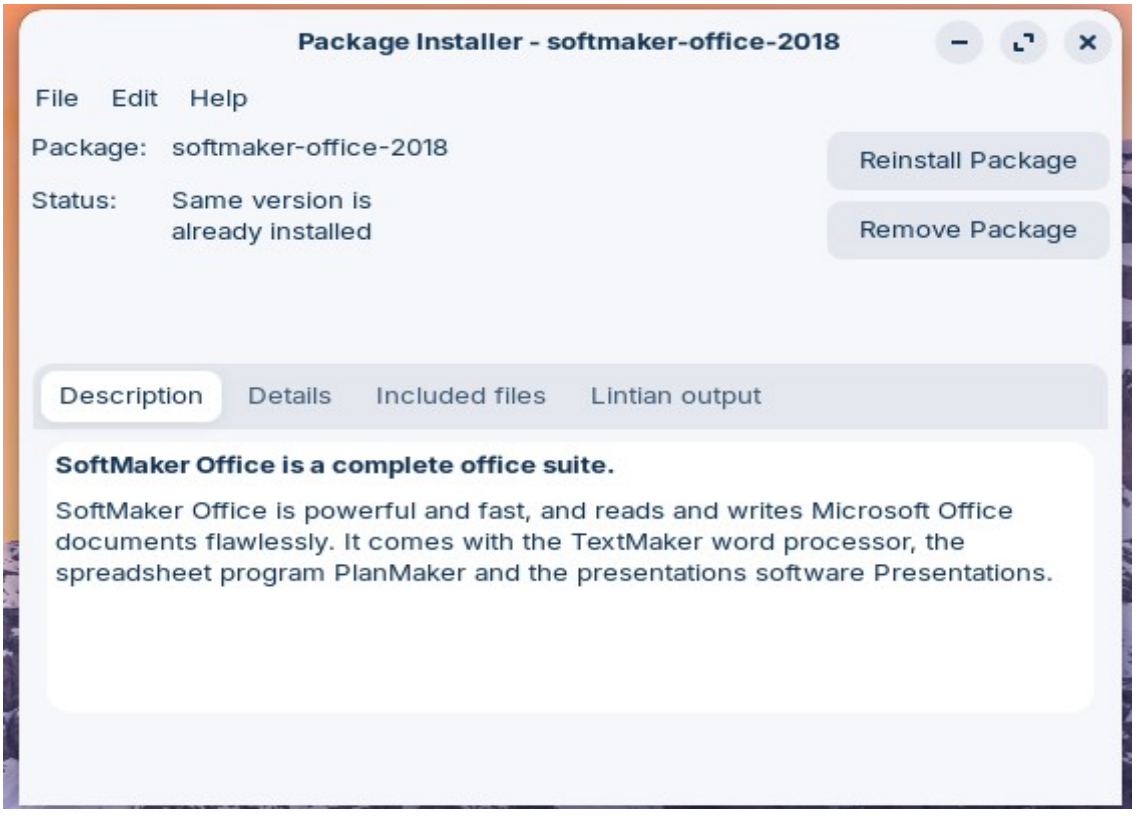
You then get a new popup window, similar to software update to say it is installing the package:



Once complete, you will be notified:



After you click on the ‘Close’ button the gdebi interface shows this:



So if the application did not install correctly first time, you can select **Reinstall Package** or if you have changed your mind, **Remove Package**.

In terms of third party **.deb** packages it is worth inspecting them before you extract them to make sure there are no malware present in the package.

[From Unofficial Manual for Zorin 15 Core:

Inspect 3rd Party .deb packages before installing:

These should always be inspected before 'extracting' as whilst not a virus, malicious code could be lurking there:
"I always open the debs and check for suspicious post-install scripts
This is how to do that. ...

Listing the files from a debian package using dpkg -c

dpkg is the package manager for debian. So using dpkg command you can list and extract the packages, as shown below.

To view the content of *.deb file:
Code:

```
:
 $ dpkg -c ovpc_1.06.94-3_i386.deb
 dr-xr-xr-x root/root         0 2010-02-25 10:54 ./
 dr-xr-xr-x root/root         0 2010-02-25 10:54 ./ovpc/
 dr-xr-xr-x root/root         0 2010-02-25 10:54 ./ovpc/pkg/
 dr-xr-xr-x root/root         0 2010-02-25 10:54 ./ovpc/pkg/lib/
 dr-xr-xr-x root/root         0 2010-02-25 10:48 ./ovpc/pkg/lib/header/
 -r-xr-xr-x root/root         130 2009-10-29 17:06 ./ovpc/pkg/lib/header/libov.so
 .
 .
 .
 -r-xr-xr-x root/root         131 2009-10-29 17:06 ./ovpc/pkg/etc/conf
```

dr-xr-xr-x root/root 0 2010-02-25 10:54 ./ovpc/pkg/etc/conf/log.conf

Extracting the files from a debian package using dpkg -x

Use dpkg -x to extract the files from a deb package as shown below.

Code:

```
:
$ dpkg -x ovpc_1.06.94-3_i386.deb /tmp/ov
$ ls /tmp/ov
ovpc
```

DEB files are ar archives, which always contains the three files — debian-binary, control.tar.gz, and data.tar.gz. We can use ar command and tar command to extract and view the files from the deb package, as shown below.

First, extract the content of *.deb archive file using ar command.

Code:

```
:
$ ar -vx ovpc_1.06.94-3_i386.deb
x - debian-binary
x - control.tar.gz
x - data.tar.gz
$
```

Next, extract the content of data.tar.gz file as shown below.

Code:

```
 :
$ tar -xvzf data.tar.gz
./
./ovpc/
./ovpc/pkg/
./ovpc/pkg/lib/
./ovpc/pkg/lib/header/
./ovpc/pkg/lib/header/libov.so
.
.
./ovpc/pkg/etc/conf
./ovpc/pkg/etc/conf/log.con
"
```

[With acknowledgement to **Blackwolf** on **ultimateeditionoz.com** forum – sadly the forum is no more.]

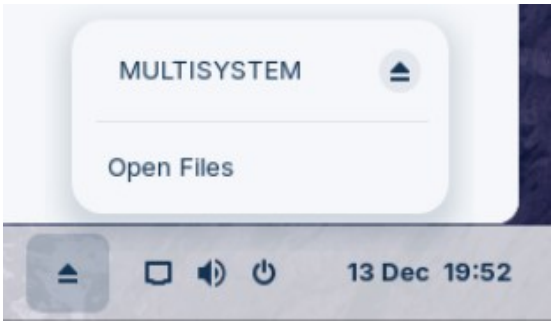
There was an instance of a GNU/Linux theme uploaded to gnome-look.org called Ubundows that had not been checked by Admin for that site; the file once extracted executed 'Unix' commands to wipe the hard drive clean of all content - YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED! 

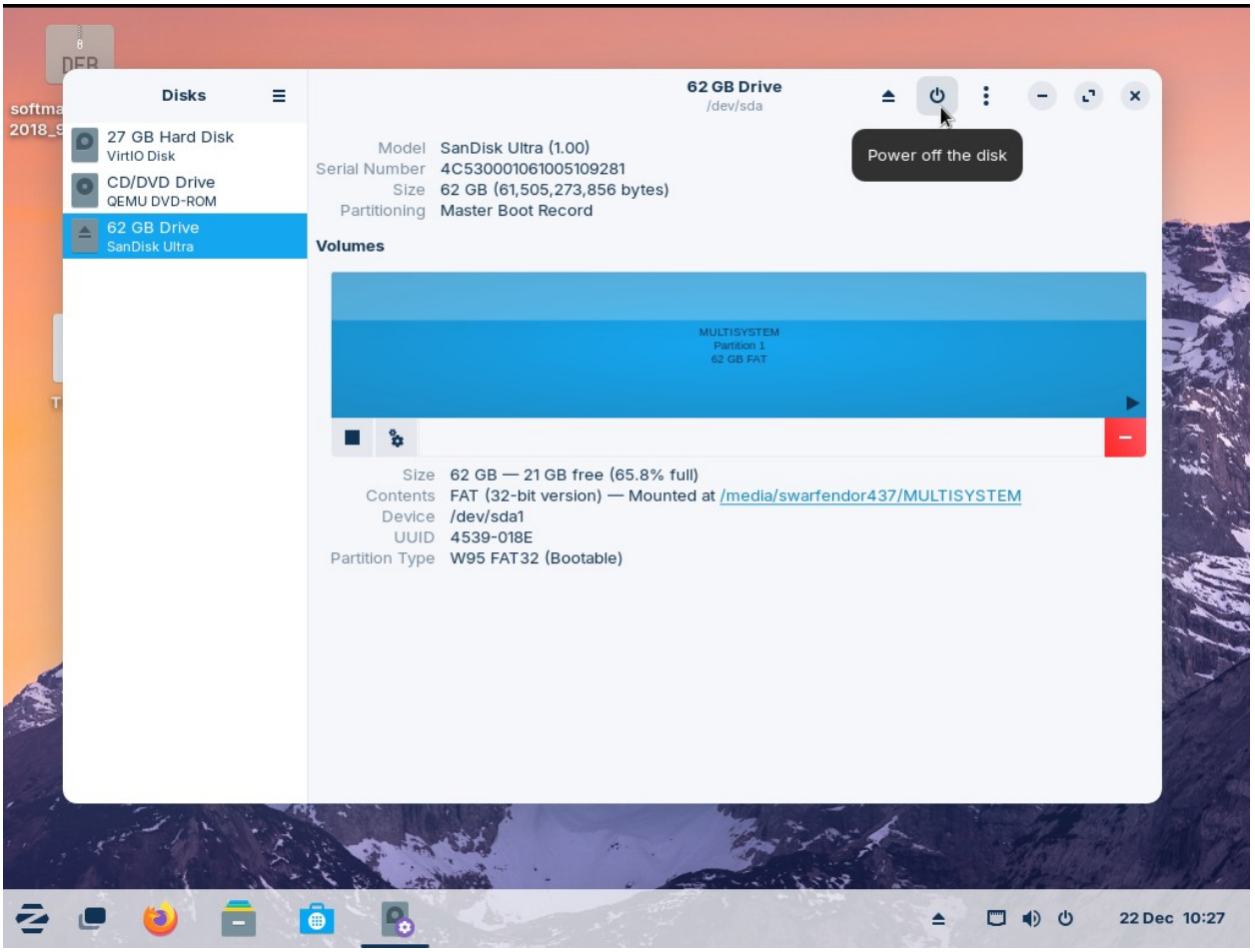
[End of extract from Unofficial Manual for Zorin 15 Core.]

Dash - the right side, the **System Tray**.

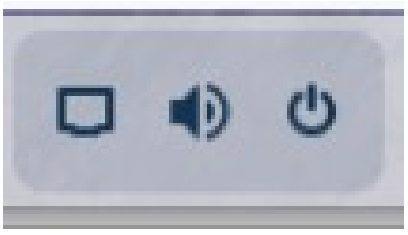


Starting on the left we have a triangle pointing upwards with a line underneath. Left click on this icon to reveal what devices are attached to the machine such as USB drives, with the option to view their contents, or unmount the drive for removal (though I always prefer to play safe and use **Disks** to power off, after unmounting.)

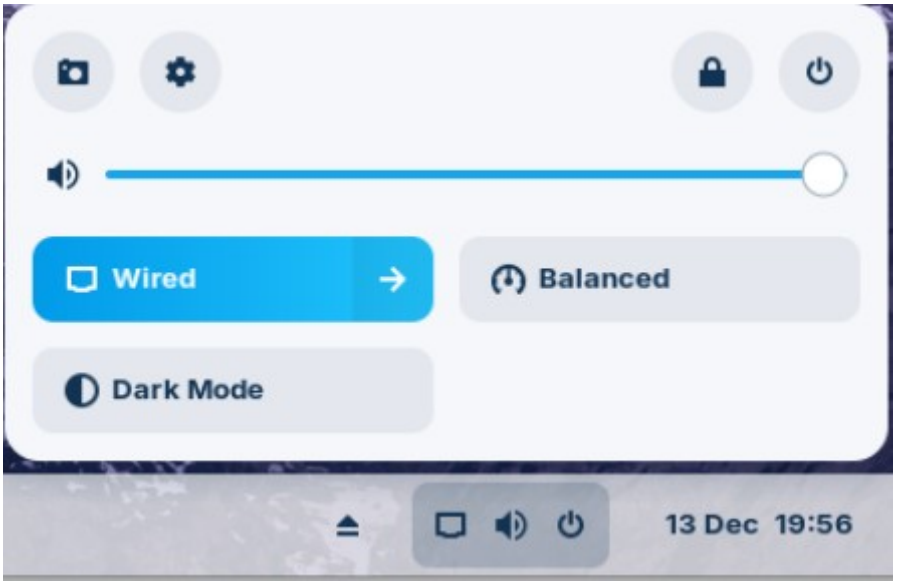




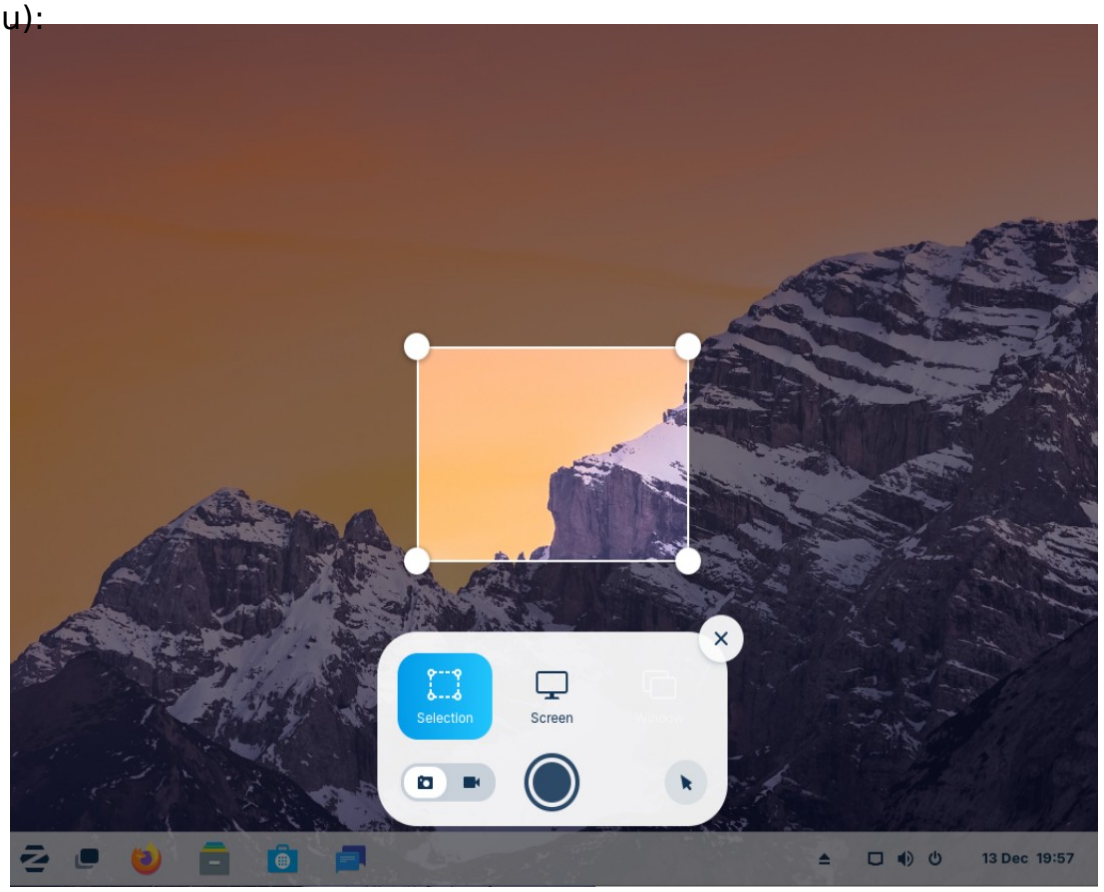
The next item is a group of 3 icons, the group name of which is **Quick Settings**, comprising of **Network, Sound (Audio), Power options.**



Left click on this group to reveal this interface revealing further shortcuts to **Screenshot/Desktop screencast (Camera Icon), Display settings (cog), Lock Screen (padlock),** and **Dark Mode** (if you want to manually change the screen from **Light** to **Dark** and vice-versa:



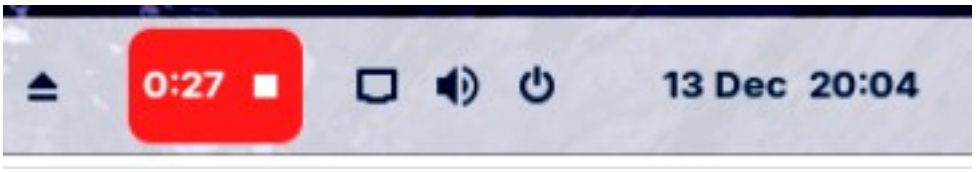
Selecting the **Camera** icon found top-left of the interface, launches the Screenshot application interface (can also be launched via Search bar on Menu):



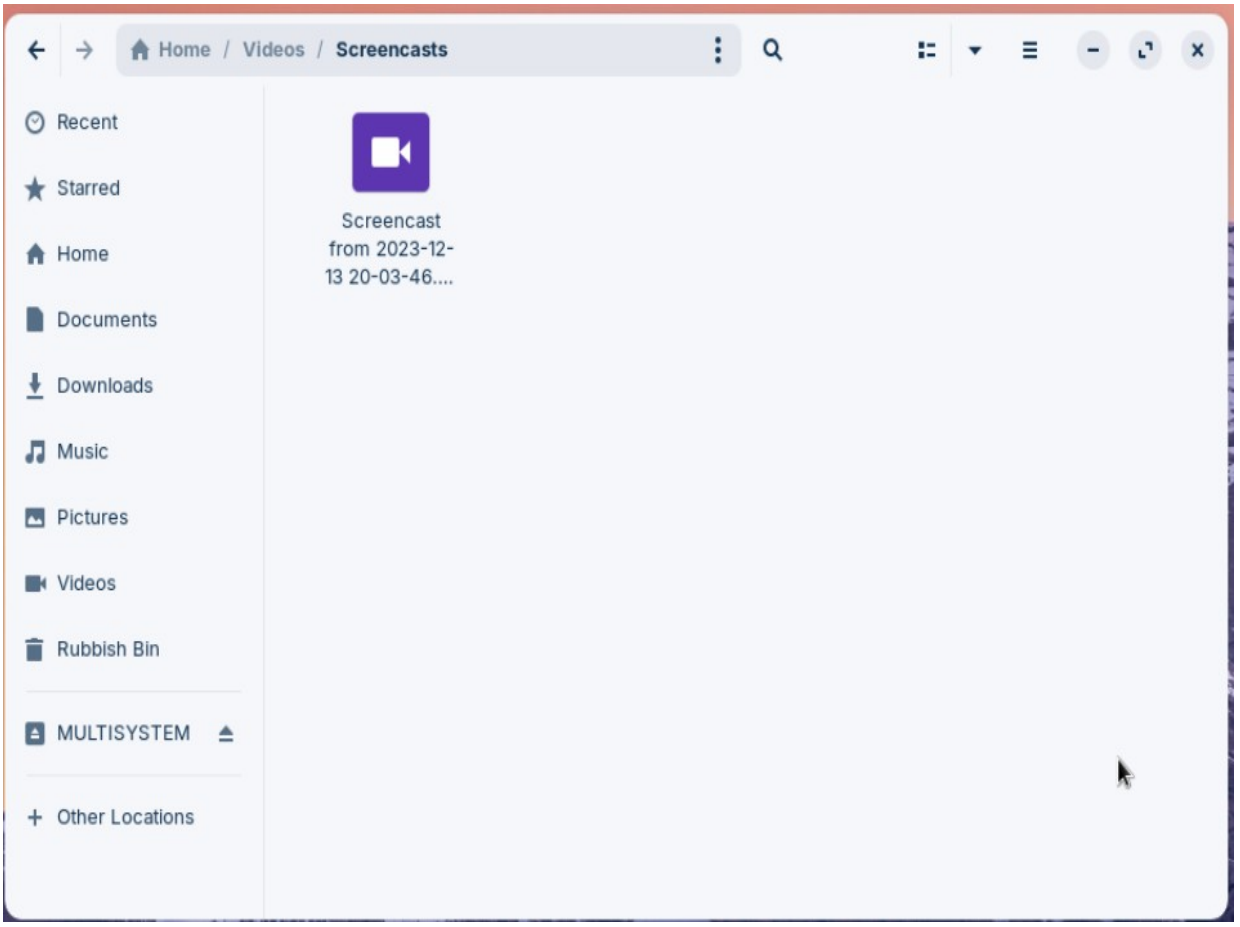
By default, the first option is to take a screenshot of a selected area that you wish to capture, and if the area is not in the part of the screen you want the screenshot to be taken you can move the highlighted square's corners by dragging them with the mouse where you want the content of the screen to be captured. Notice also the group of 2 icons bottom left - the default setting is to take a still shot, the next option is to make a video of the desktop, a screencast. To take a snapshot of the desktop using the camera function, or to start capturing a video, you left click on the large black circle which has a black ring around it.

The pointer bottom right is not selected - select it if you want the pointer to be captured in the screenshot/video capture. Your captured still image of the area of the desktop or Desktop selection is saved in **Home | Pictures | Screenshots**.

When recording a video of the desktop, a timer shows up in the Dash as shown below. To stop recording, left-click the red box with the timer.

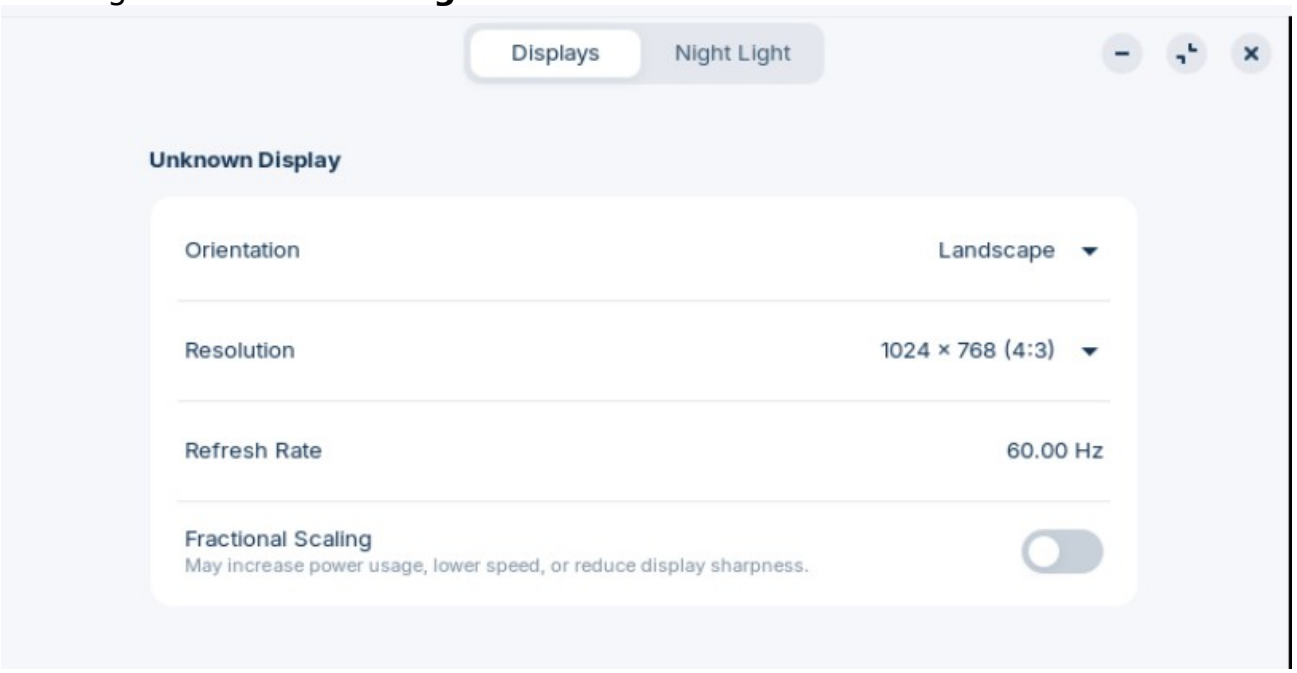


Your screencast will get saved in **Home | Videos | Screencasts**

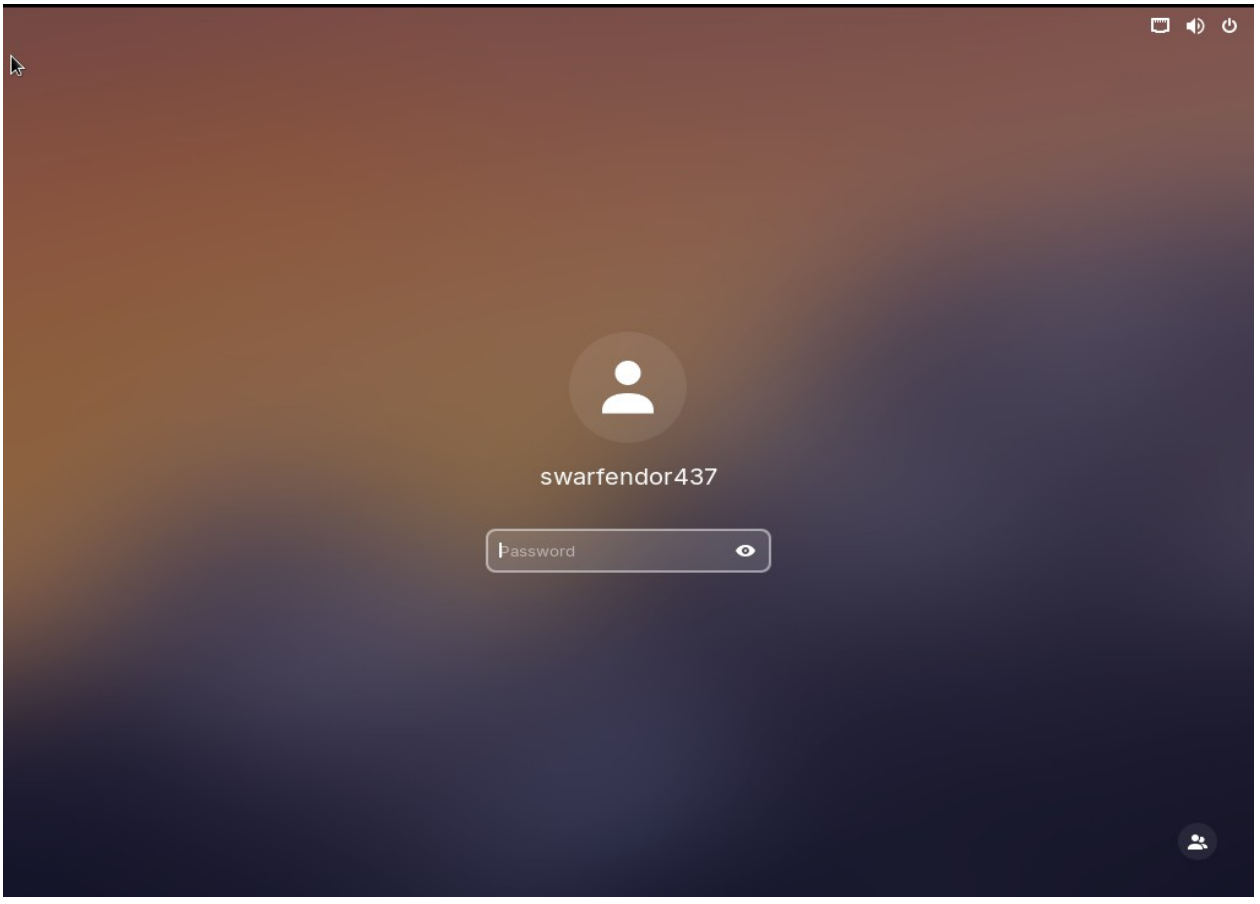


Returning to the expanded panel:

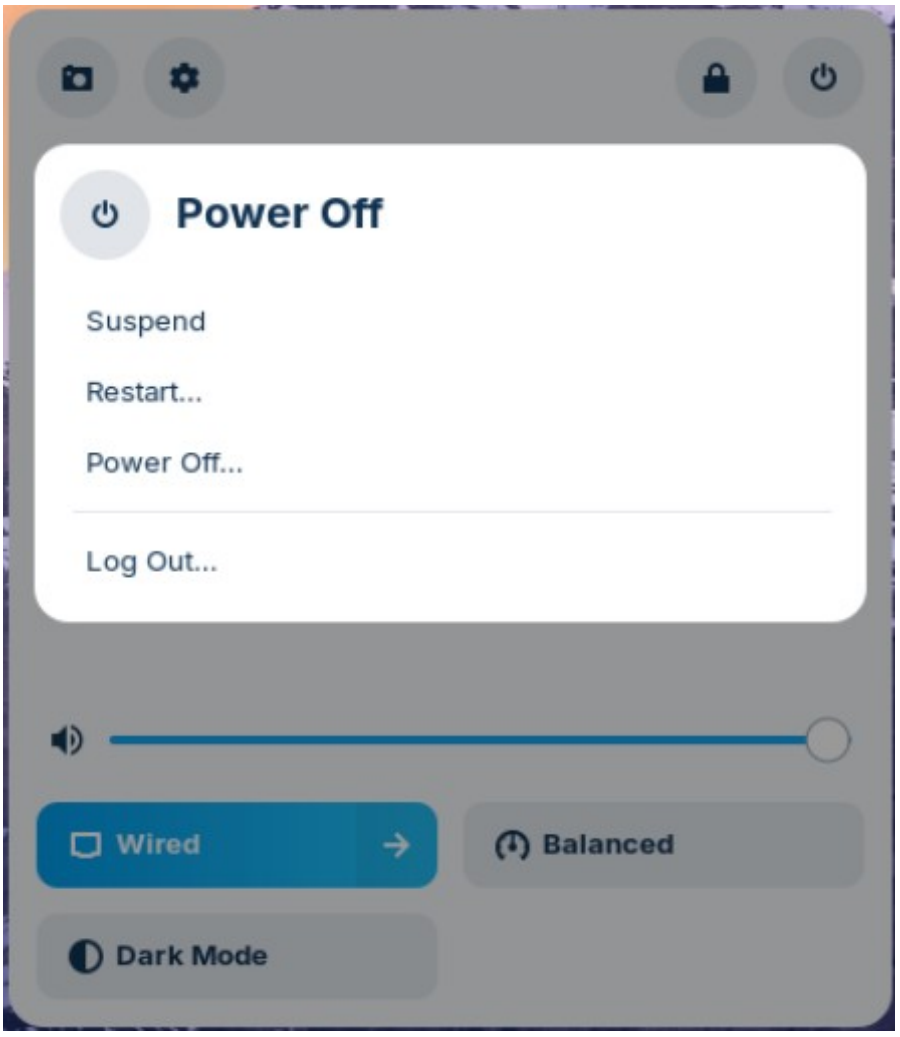
Selecting the **cog** to the right of the camera button reveals the **Displays** settiings within the **Settings** menu:



Selecting the **Padlock** icon, activates the **Screen Lock.**

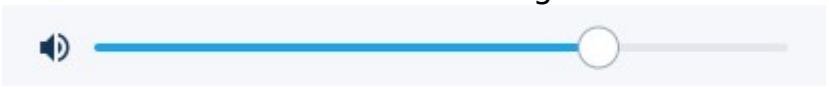


Selecting the **Power** icon gives you the following options:



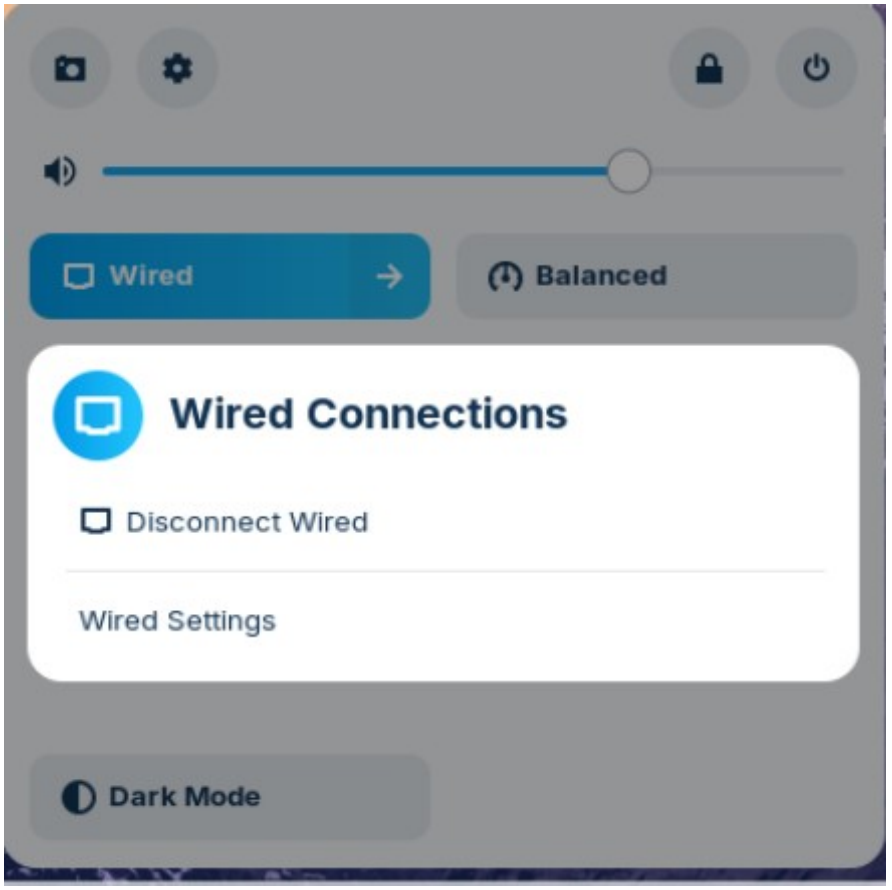
To close this window, just press **Esc** on the keyboard.

Using the left mouse button and holding the white circle on the **Speaker** line



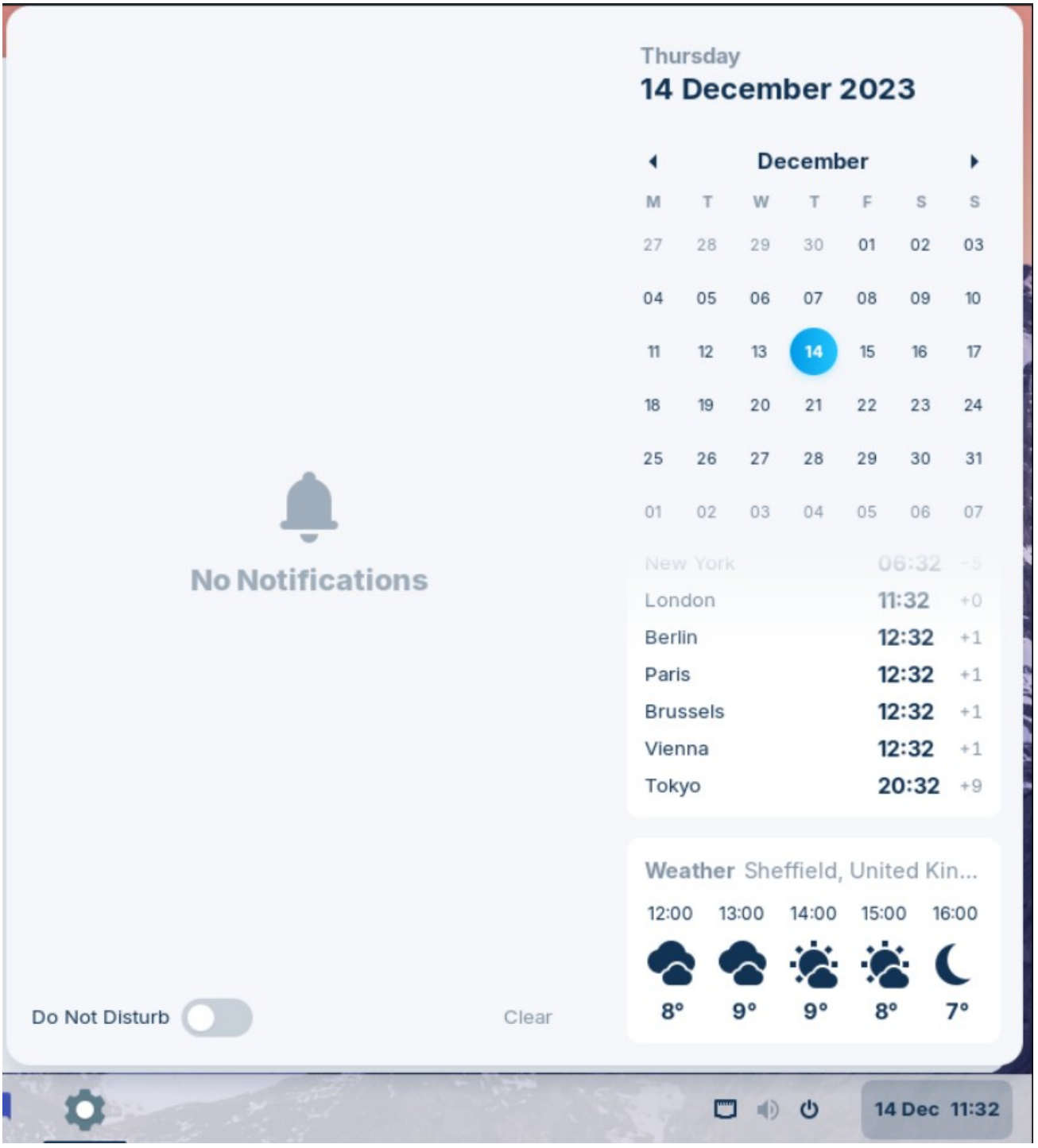
and dragging to the left decreases system volume, to the right, increases the system volume.

The blue bar with the **Network** icon identifies the connection as being **Wired**. If you click on the part which has the **Network** icon and word **Wired**, it disconnects you from the network, i.e., turns network connection off. Selecting the arrow on the right reveals the following:



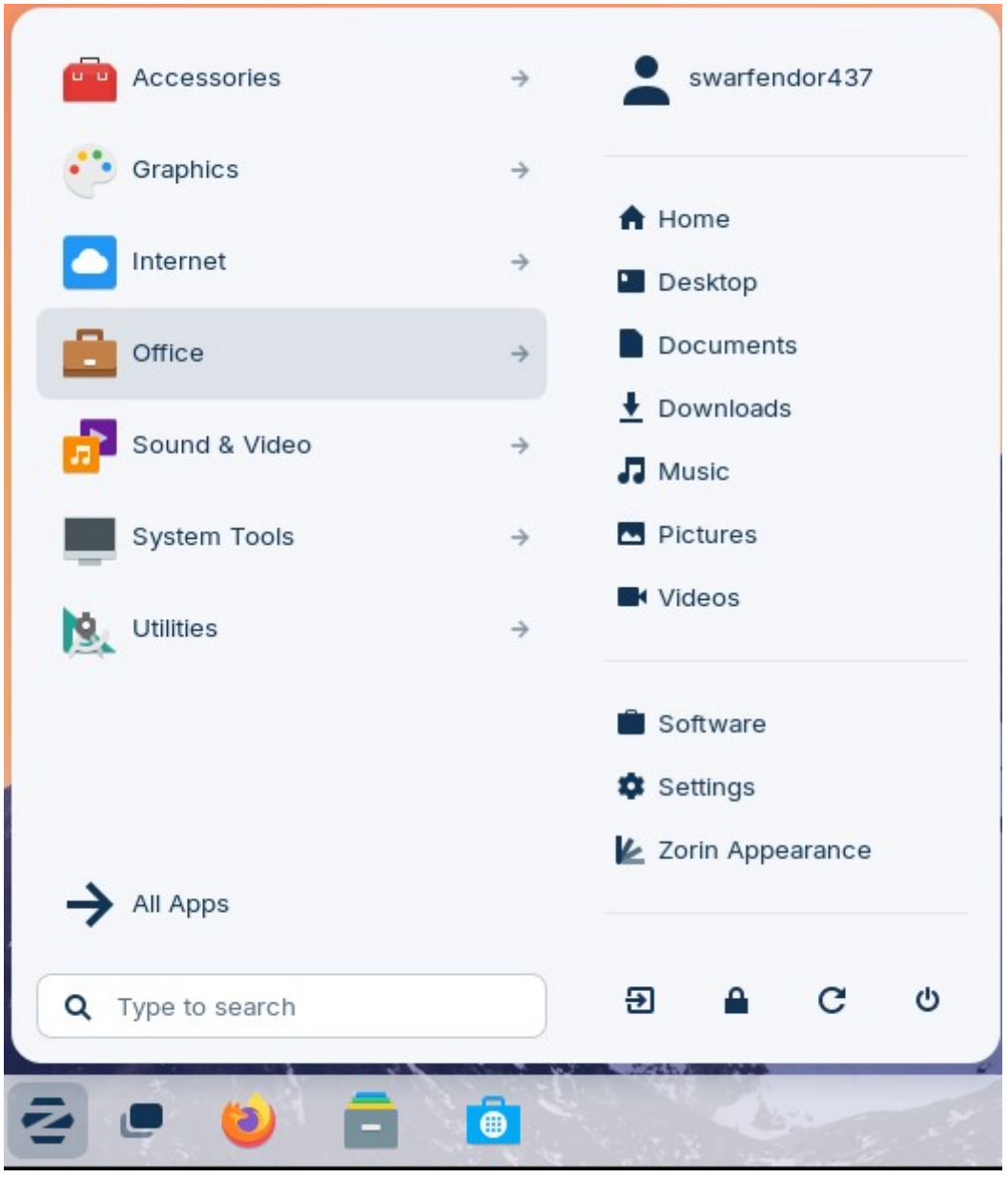
Selecting **Wired Settings** takes you to the **Network** section of **Settings.**
To the right of the **Network** 'bar' can be seen the greyed out bar with the word **Balanced**. This is the quick setting for **Power Management**. Selecting this item changes the setting from **Balanced** to **Power Saver.**
Lastly, the greyed out bar with the symbol of dark and light with the words **Dark Mode** to the right is an instant switch from the default **Light Mode** to **Dark Mode** and vice-versa.

The last item of the **System Tray** is the **Date & Time** section. Right-click this part of the **System Tray** and you will reveal, **Calendar, World Clocks** (you have to add Cities in the Clocks application to see these), and **Weather** (you will need to add your location to the **Weather** application in **Accessories** before you can see it here:



a. The Zorin Menu and its sub-menus:

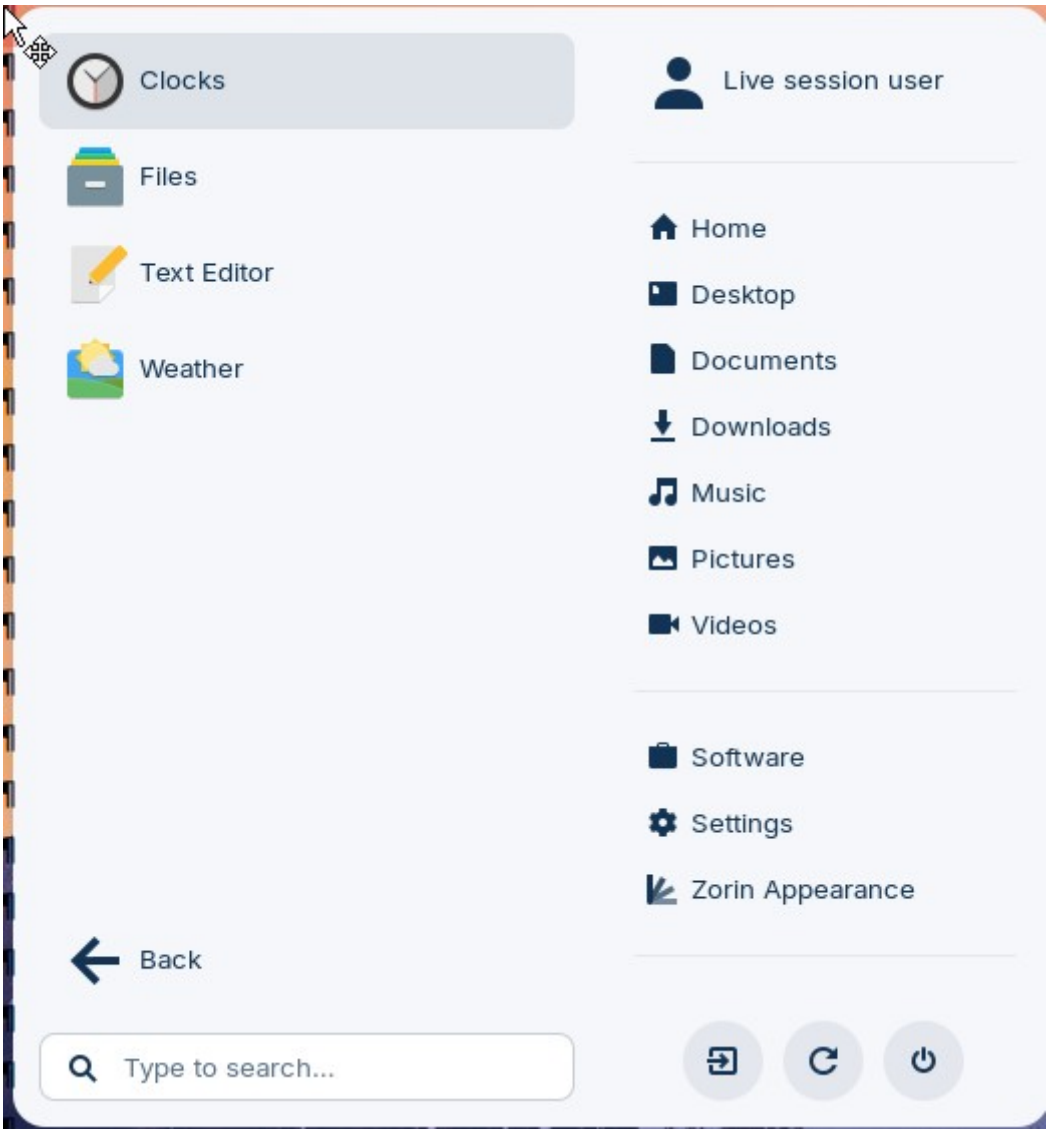
The default **Menu** of Zorin will be familiar to a lot of Windows migrators similar to that of Windows 7 with Applications listed on the left and Personal Folders and System Settings to the right and a 'search' bar at the bottom:



The key sub menus are: **Accessories, Graphics, Internet, Office, Sound & Video, System Tools, Utilities.**

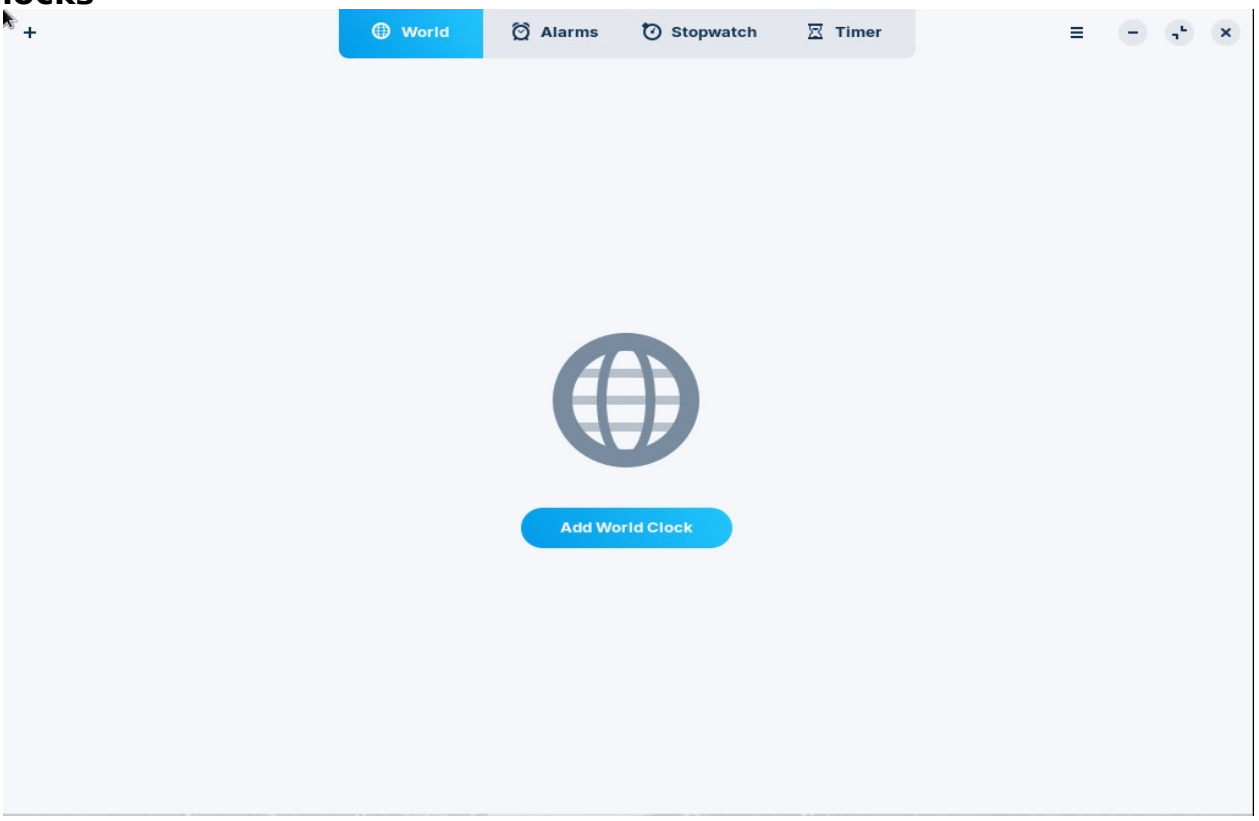
Sub-menus:

i. Accessories;



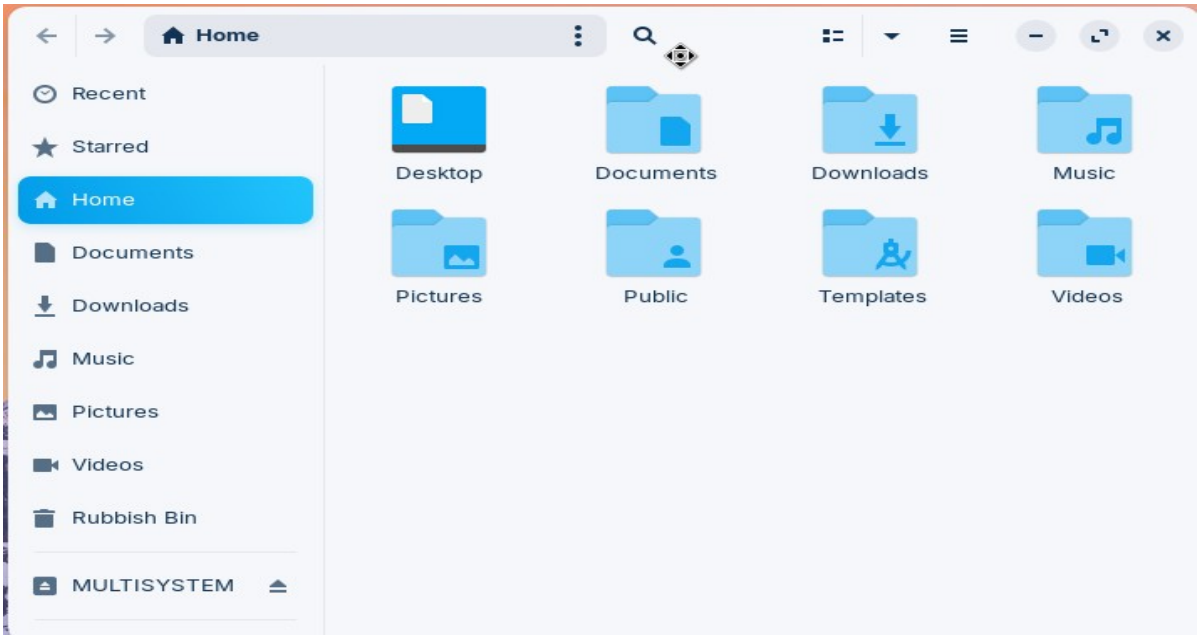
Here we have **Clocks, Files, Text Editor** (gedit)**, Weather** (On the old version you needed to enter a sub-district of your City, now it will accept City entered, provided it is in the Weather provider's Database.)

Clocks

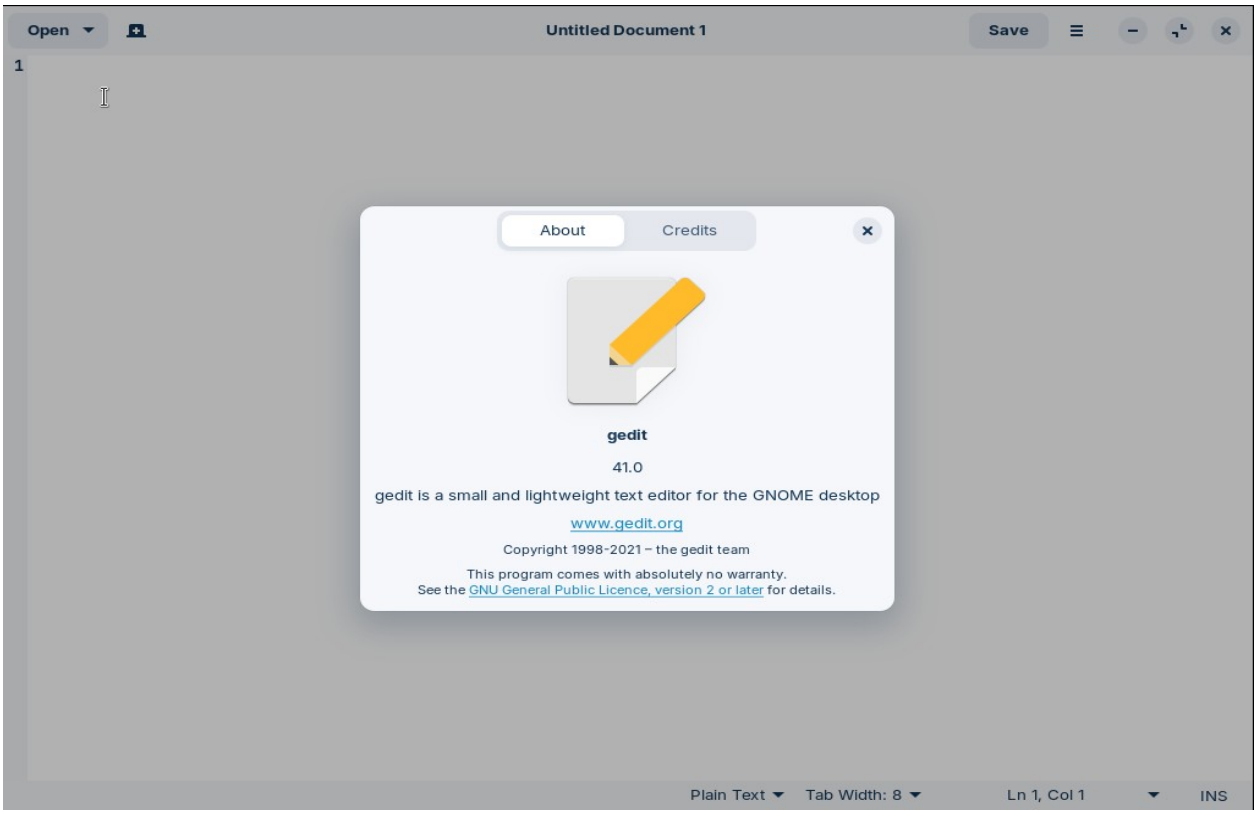


Clocks allows you to: Add a World Clock (Major cities on Timelines) (Useful if you have business contacts abroad and you need to speak to them before their office closes!), set **Alarms**, run a **Stopwatch**, or start a **Timer.**

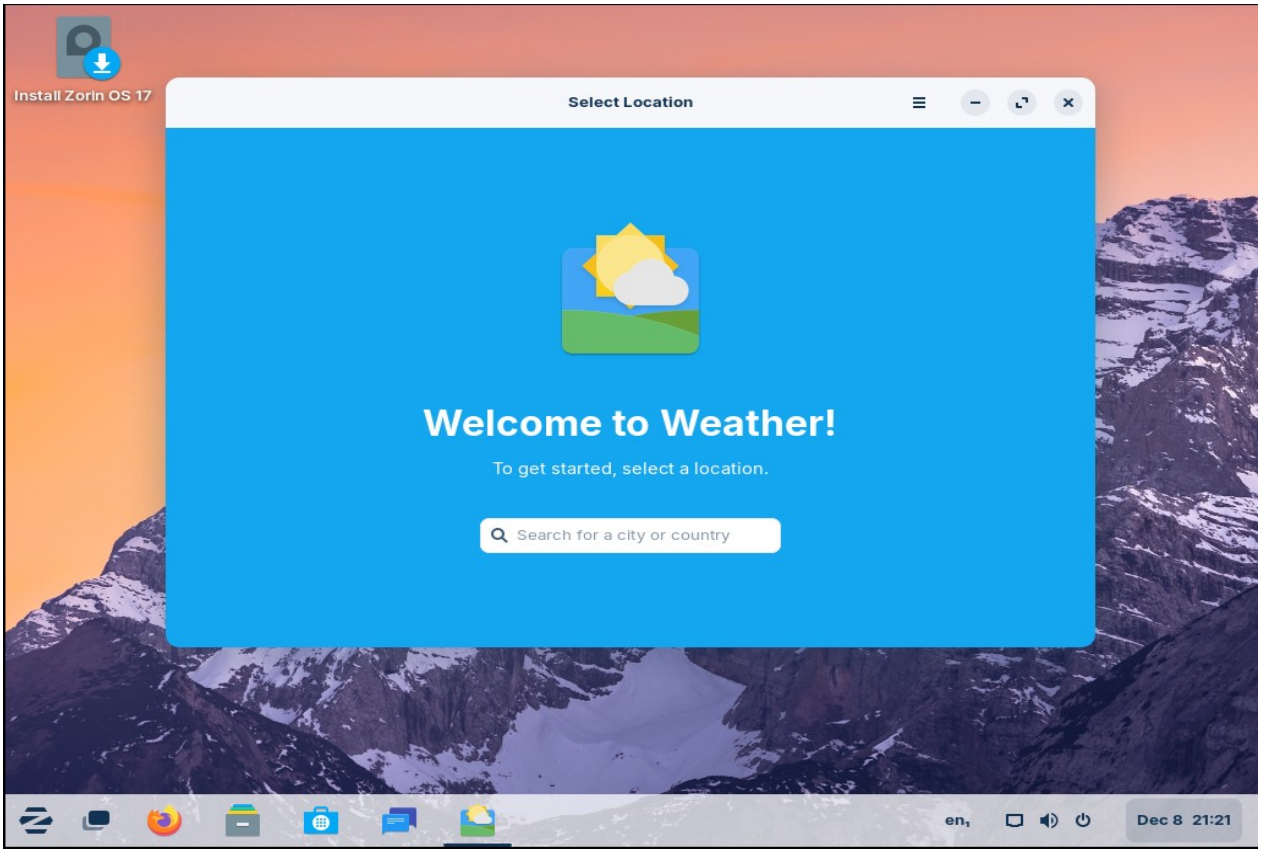
Files (formerly Nautilus file explorer)

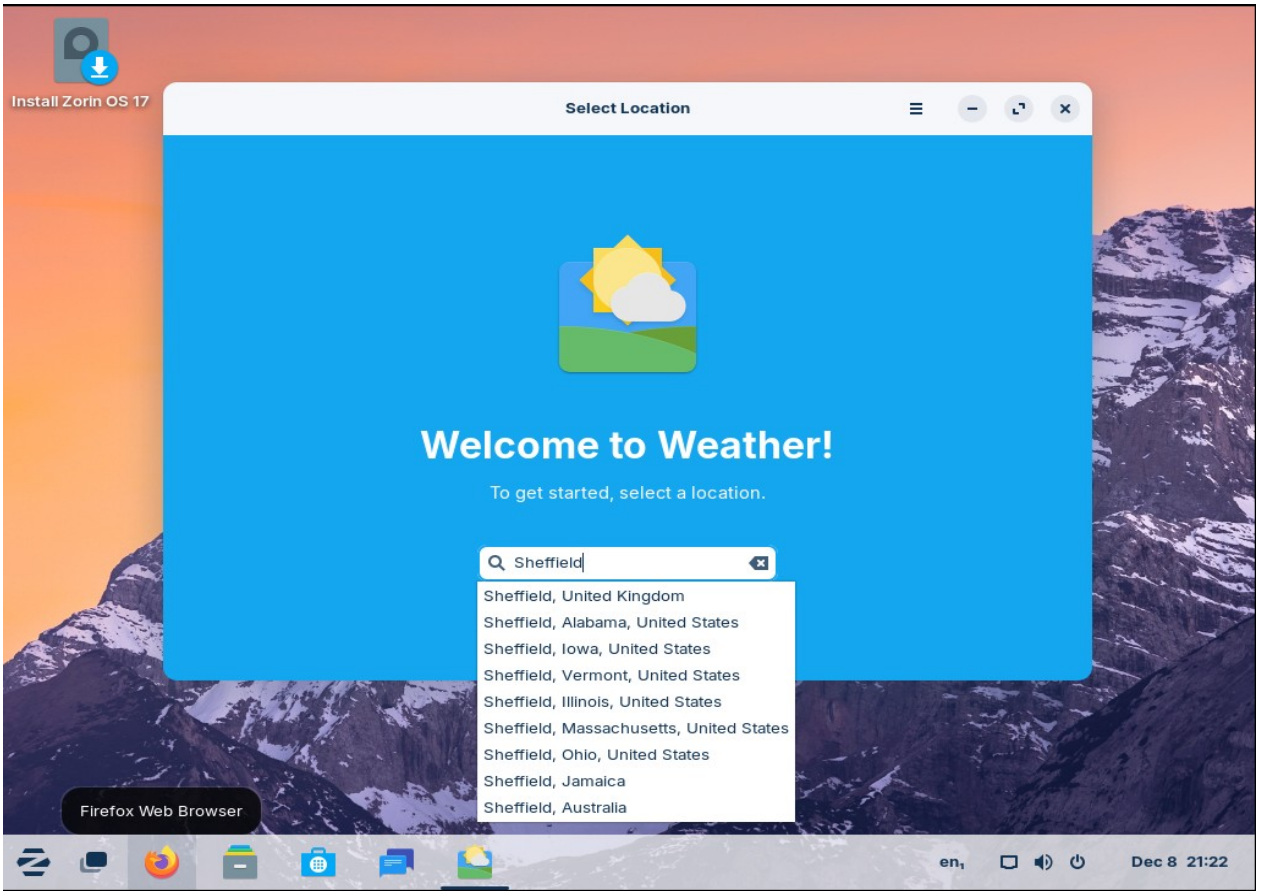


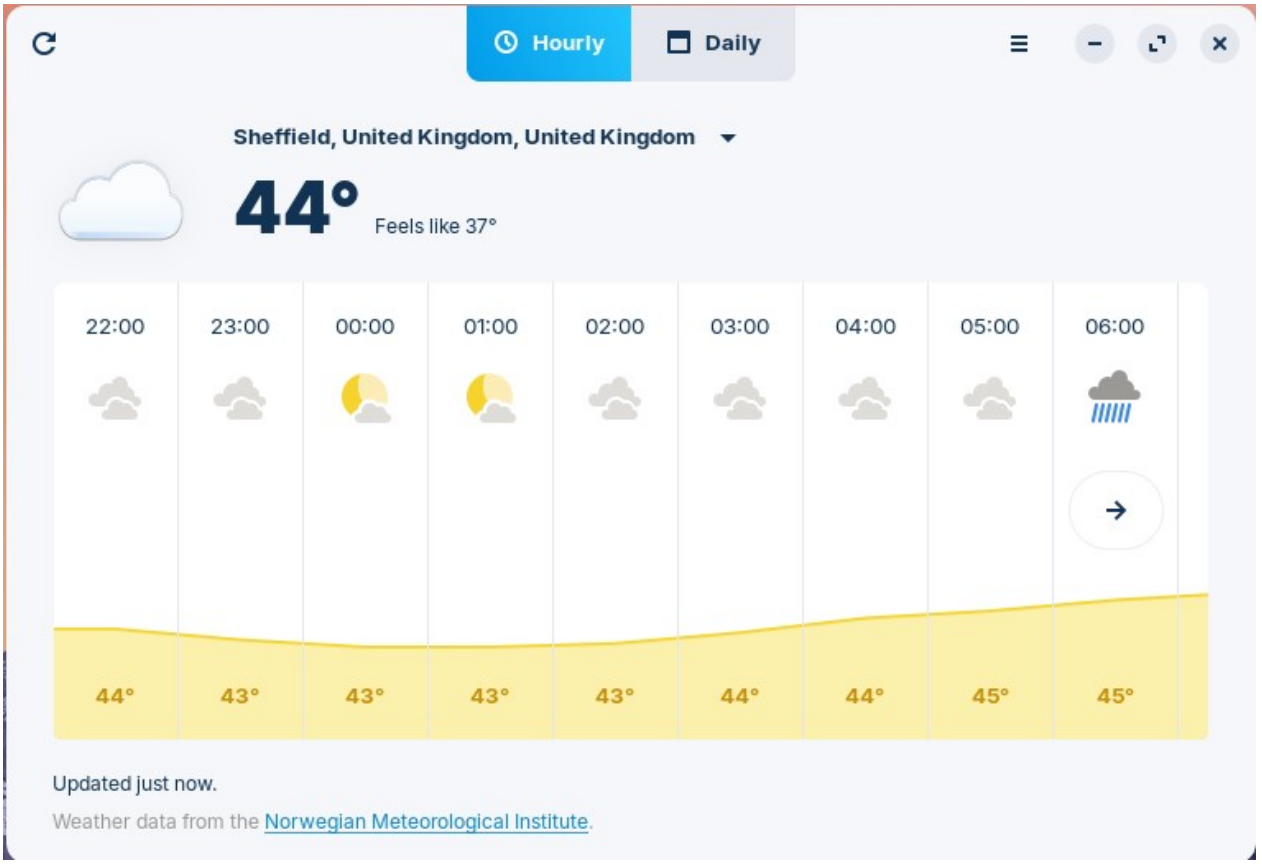
Text Editor (gedit), similar to Notepad it is used to create .txt files.



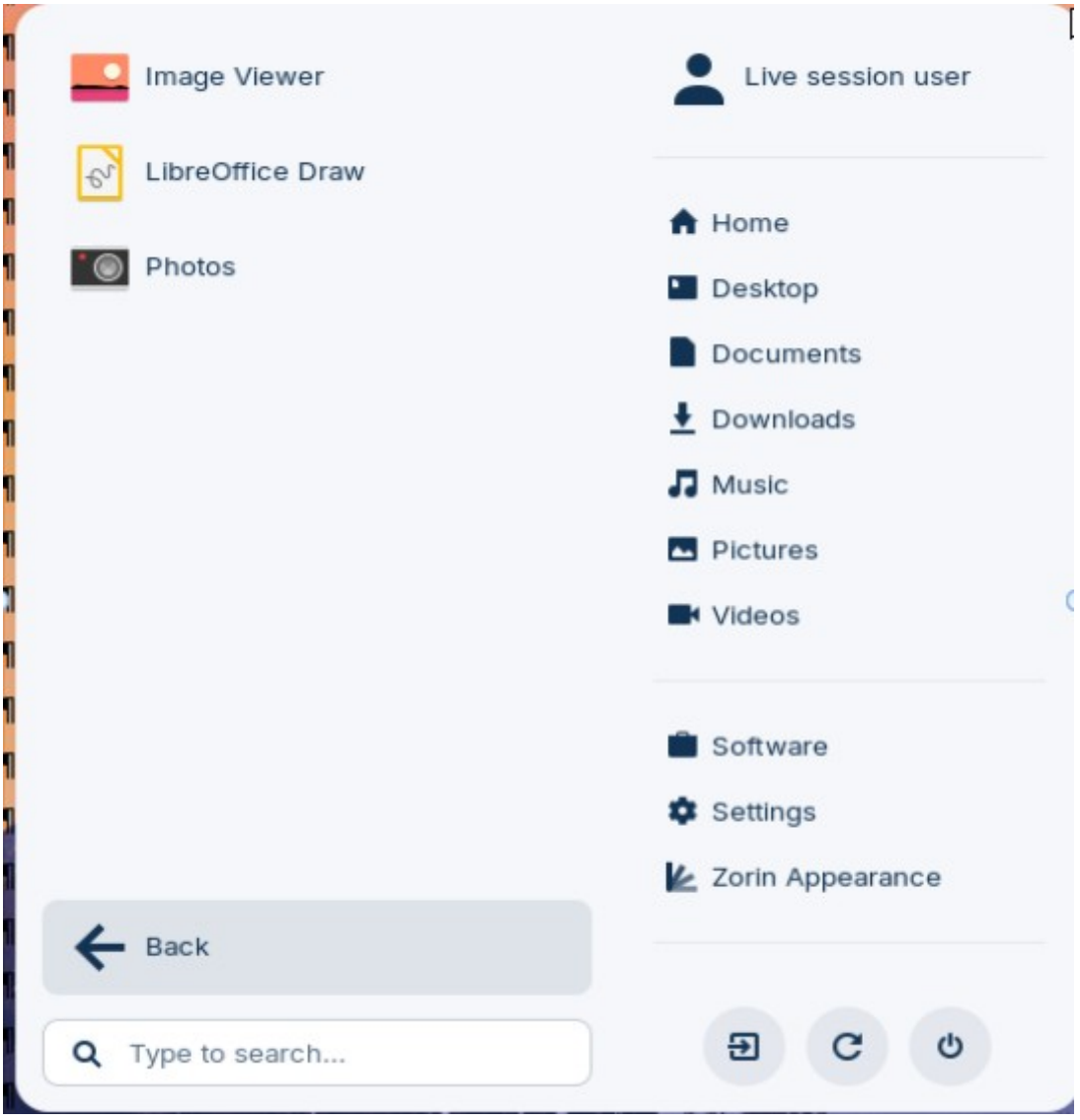
Weather




Install Zorin OS 17
Select Location
Welcome to Weather!
To get started, select a location.
Sheffield
Sheffield, United Kingdom
Sheffield, Alabama, United States
Sheffield, Iowa, United States
Sheffield, Vermont, United States
Sheffield, Illinois, United States
Sheffield, Massachusetts, United States
Sheffield, Ohio, United States
Sheffield, Jamaica
Sheffield, Australia
Firefox Web Browser
en,
Dec 8 21:22

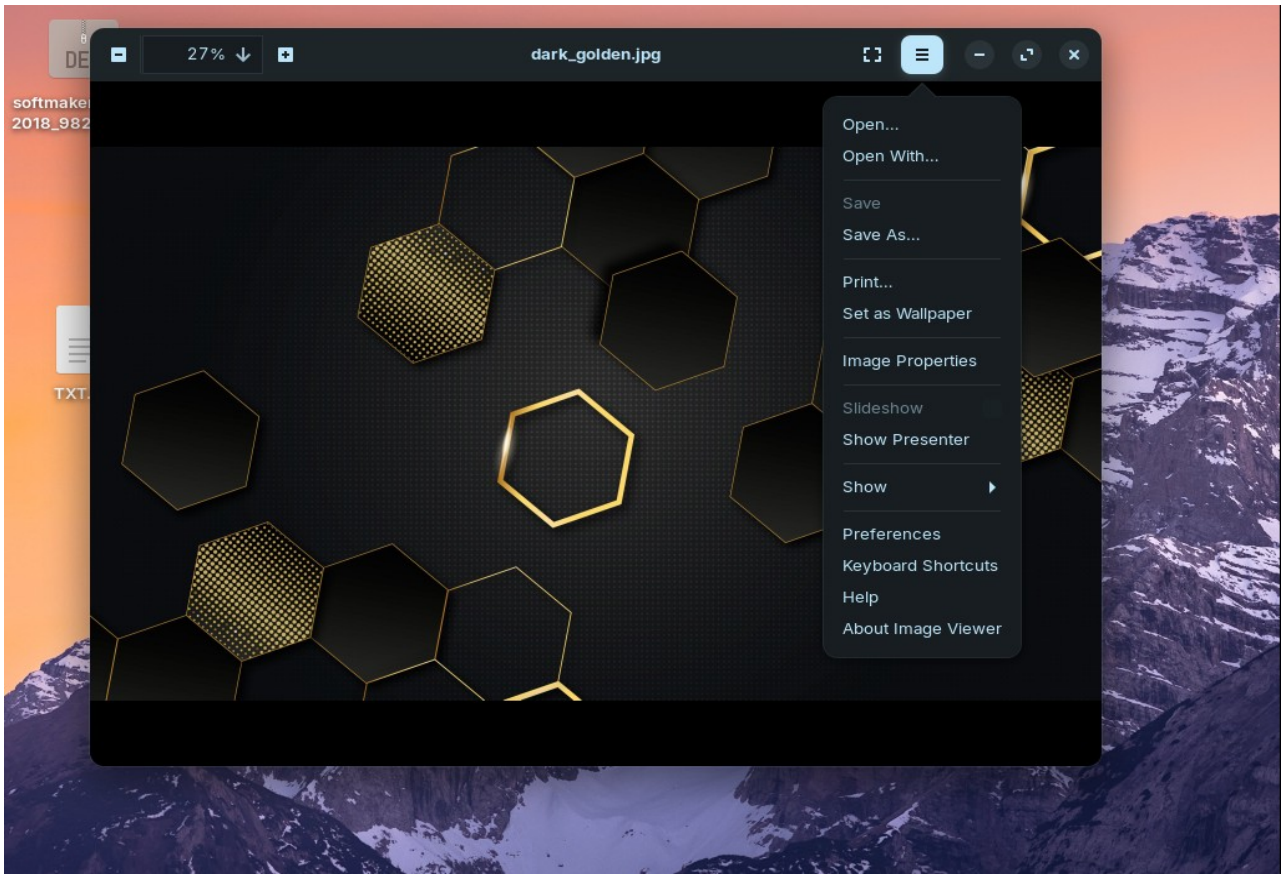

Hourly
Daily
Sheffield, United Kingdom, United Kingdom
44°
Feels like 37°
22:00
23:00
00:00
01:00
02:00
03:00
04:00
05:00
06:00
44°
43°
43°
43°
43°
44°
44°
45°
45°
Updated just now.
Weather data from the Norwegian Meteorological Institute.

ii. Graphics;

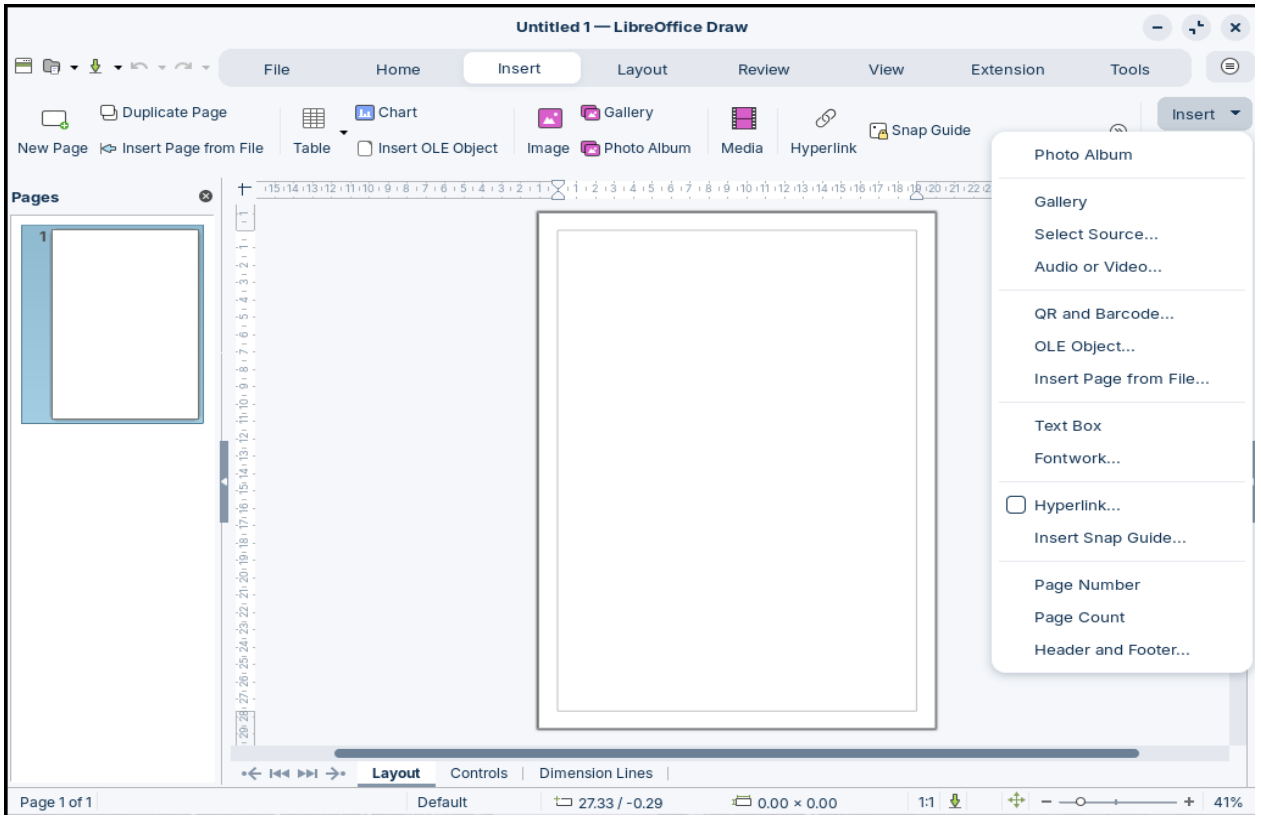


The Graphics applications on offer are **Image Viewer** (View images you have downloaded or in your Pictures folder within **Home), LibreOffice Draw** (Create your own diagrams)**,** and **Photos** (from Online Accounts or Pictures Folder).

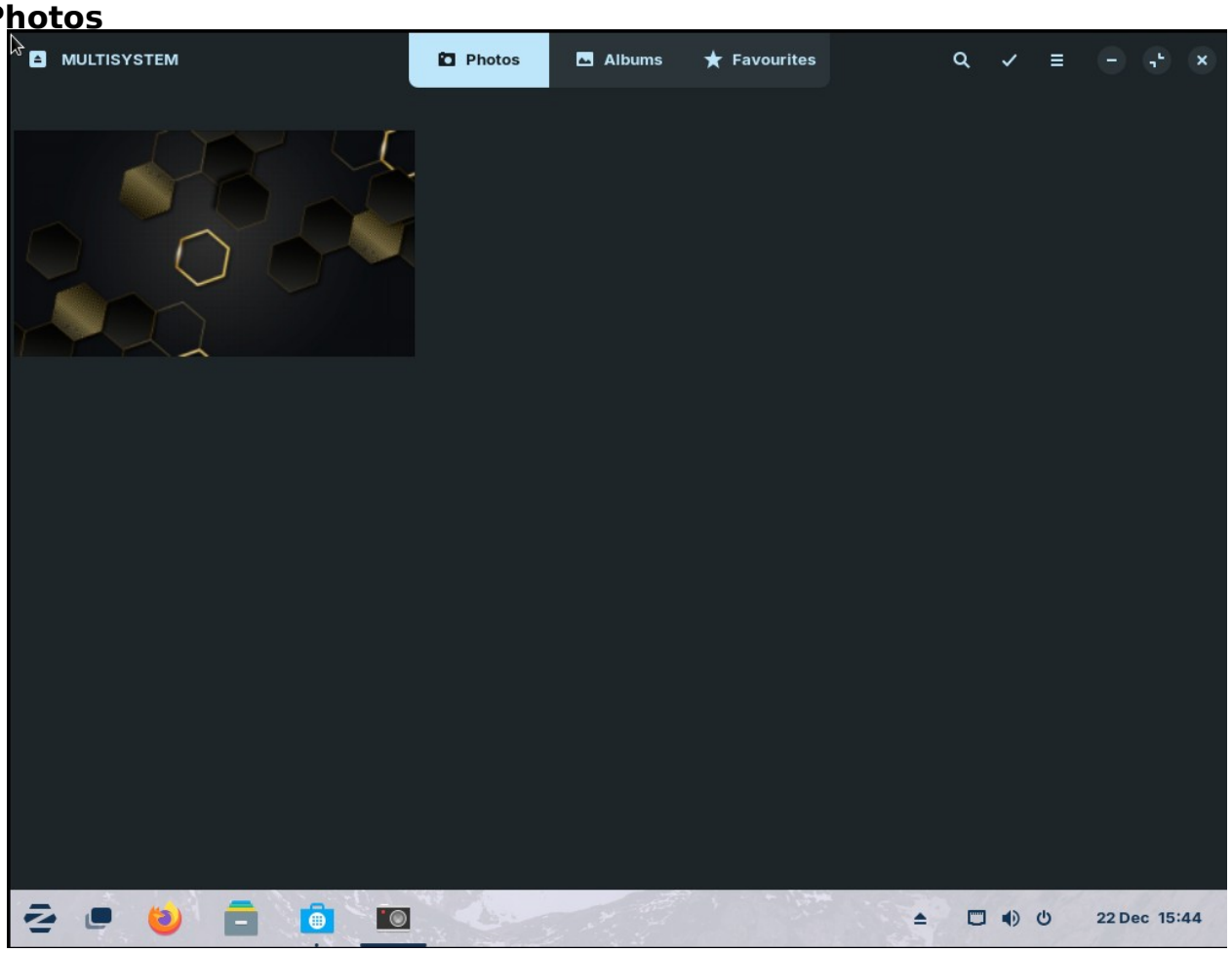
Image Viewer



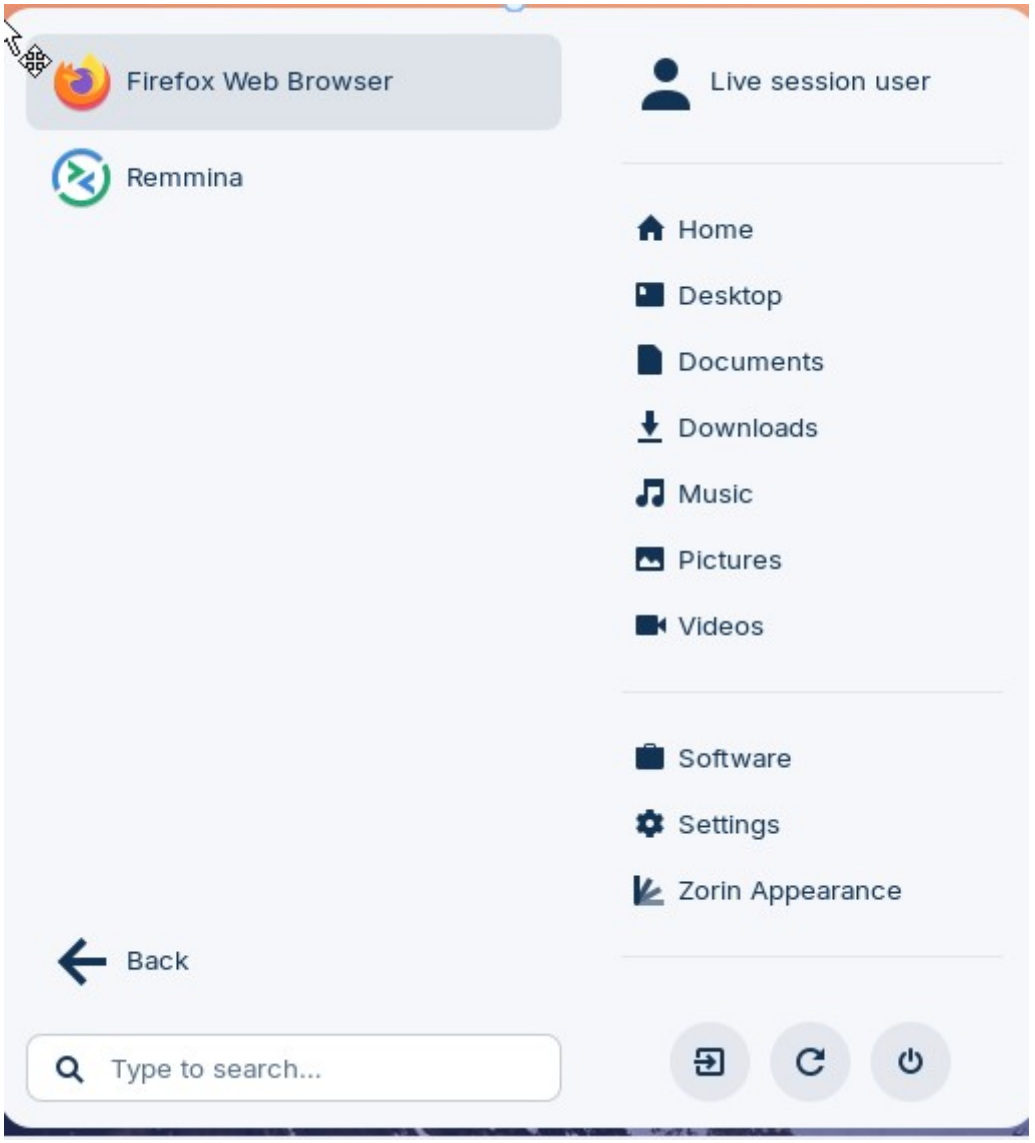
LibreOffice Draw



Photos

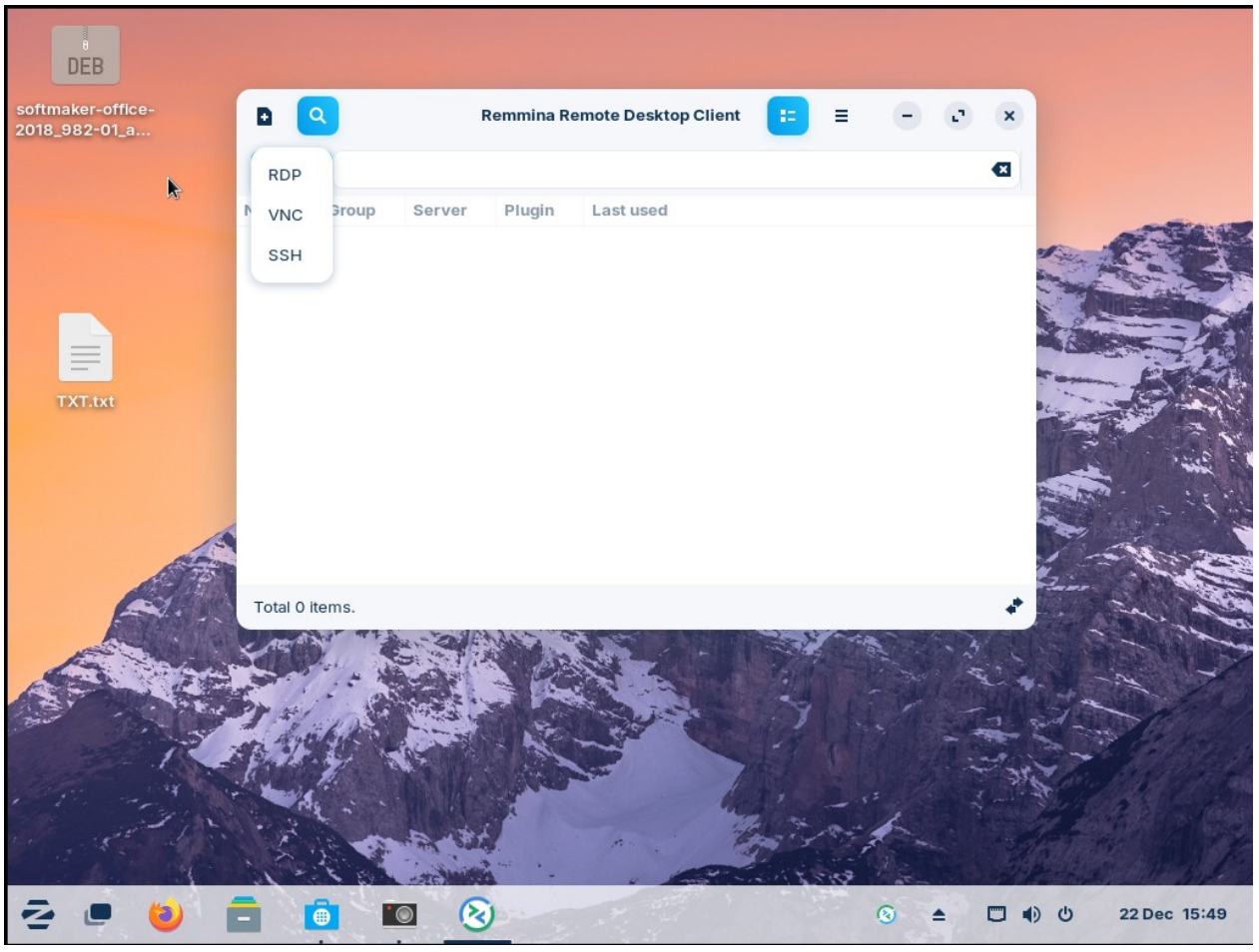


iii. Internet



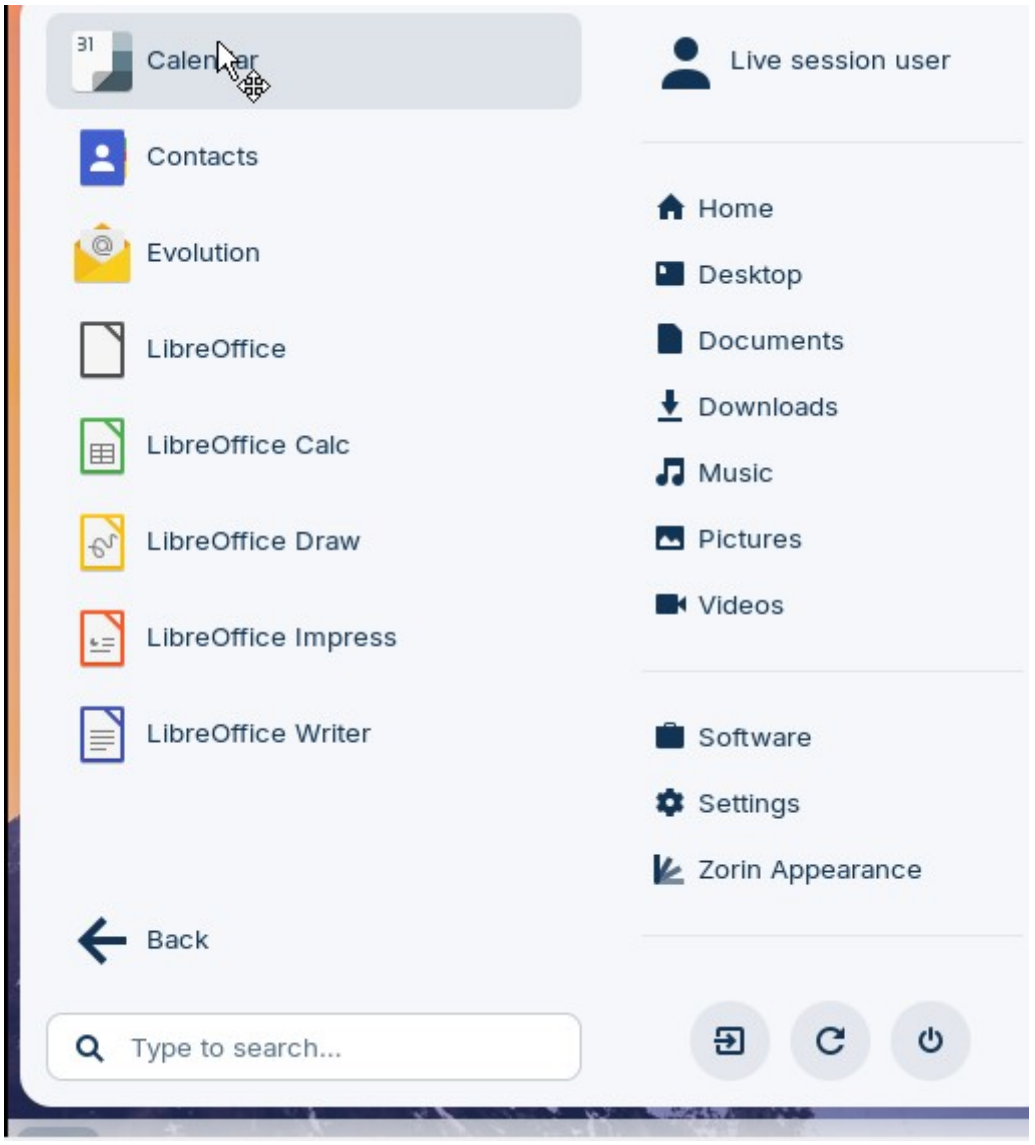
The applications in this sub-menu comprise of **Firefox** (Web Browser, see page 25), and **Remmina** (Remote Desktop Access for GNU/Linux).

Remmina



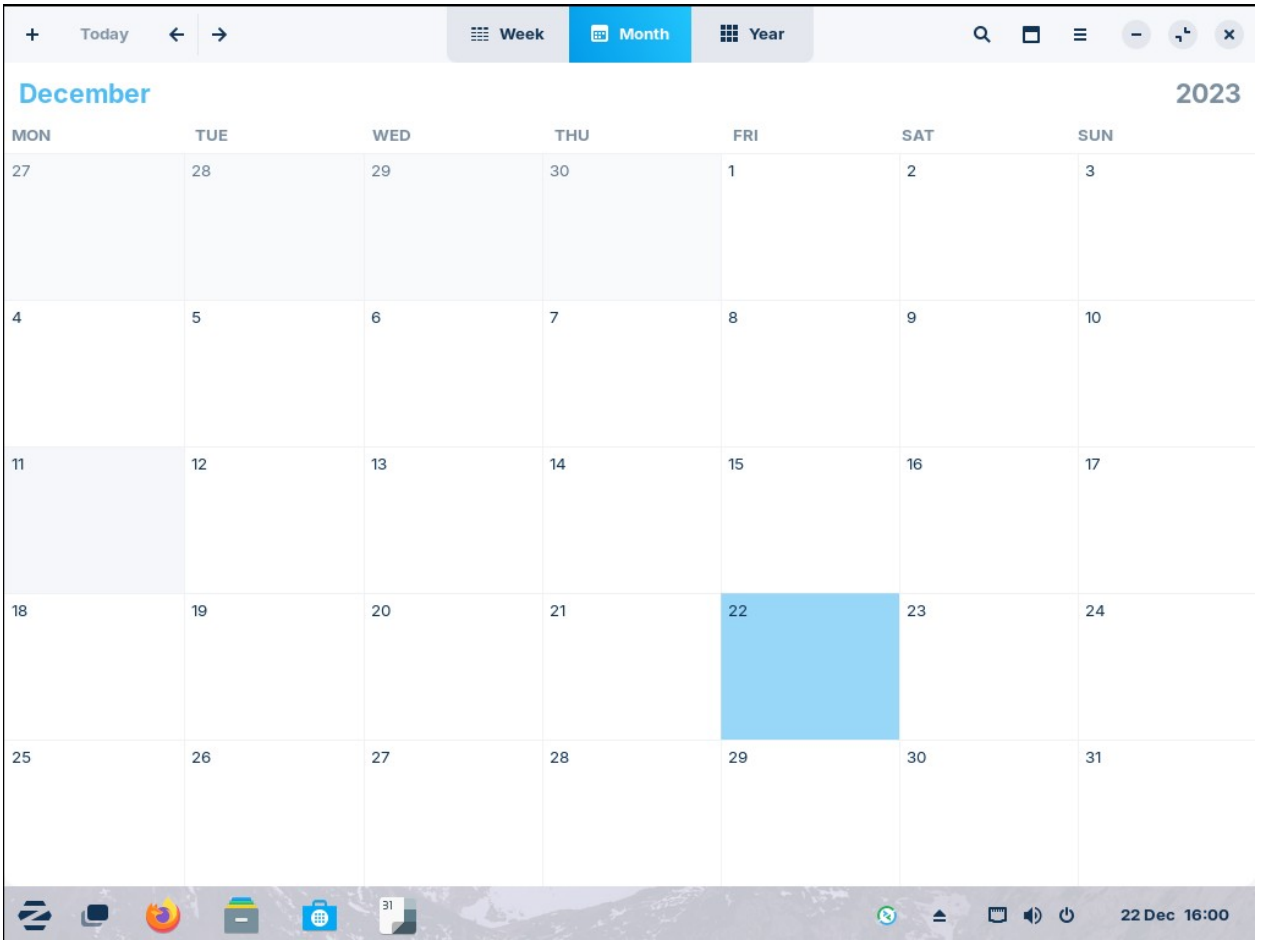
This is a useful tool to connect to a private web page at your work to access servers. I will share with you my experience, ironically only found out how to do this 1 month before retirement, working from home! At the time I was running Devuan 3.1.1 and using virt-manager to run Windows 8.1 Professional 32-bit. Using Edge, I logged into the private page. Once there I had to click on a link to the shared drive. When this was selected, the server downloaded a tiny .exe file called cpub.exe. I saved this to a mounted USB in the VM. I then unmounted the USB from the VM and mounted it in the Host. I then launched Remmina within Devuan and pointed it to the cpub.exe file - RESULT! Once I had this setup, all I had to do was enter my username, credentials, and domain and I gained access immediately, unlike Windows which required me to provide my username and credentials **3** times!

iv. Office

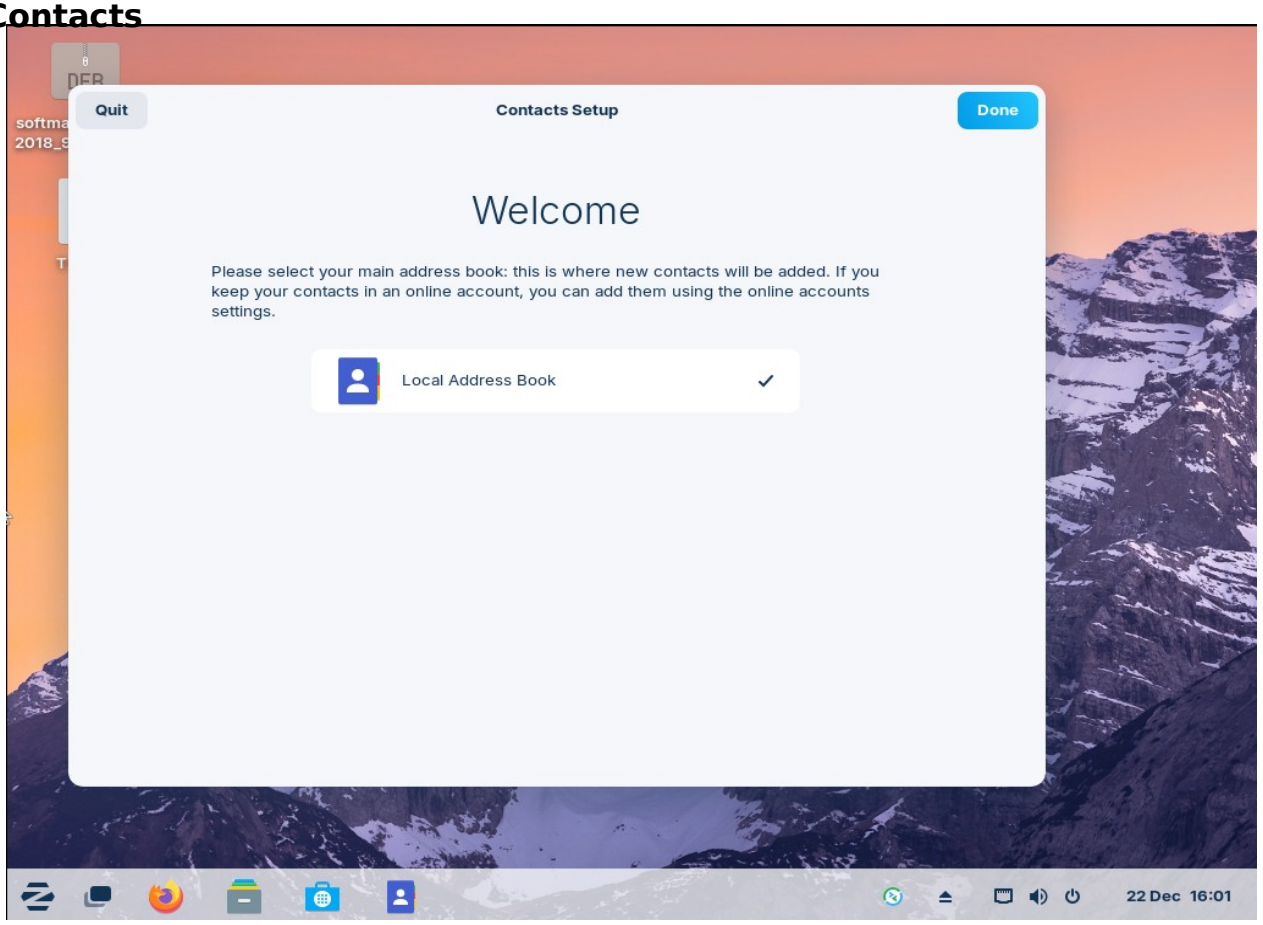


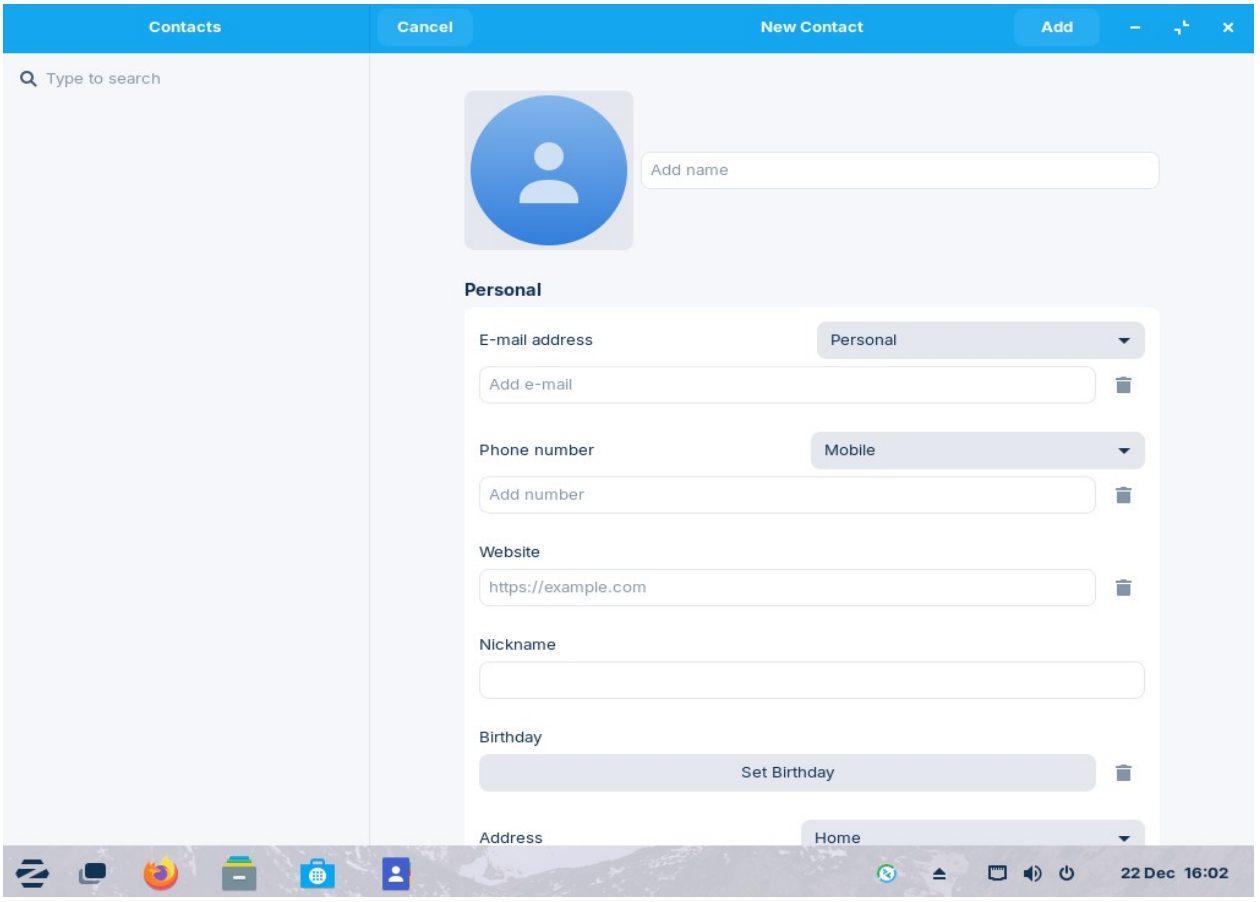
In this section we have **Calendar**, **Contacts**, **Evolution** (an Outlook Gnome equivalent mail client), **Libre Office** (overview of all applications) **– Calc** (spreadsheet application), **Draw** (simple Drawing application), **Impress** (Presentation application), **Writer** (Text processor).

Calendar

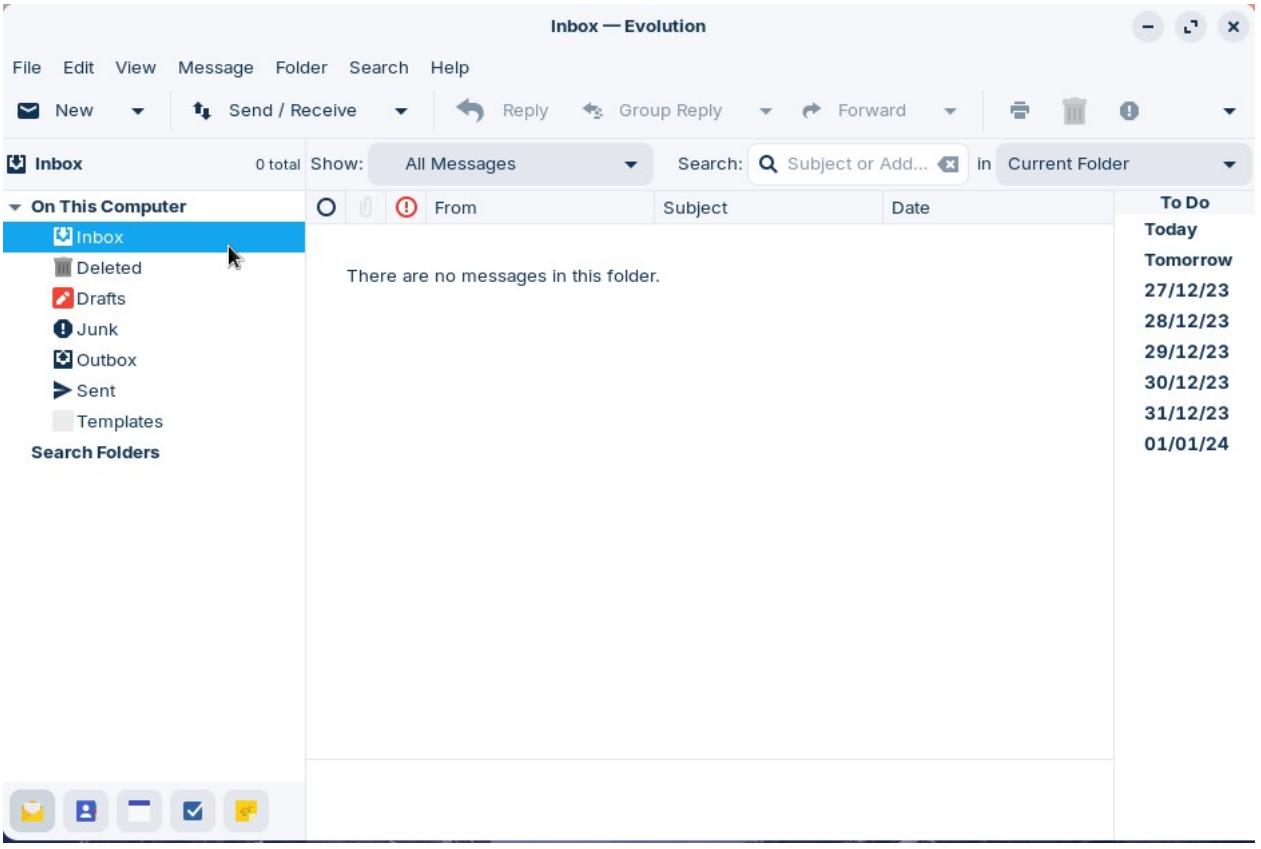

Today
Week
Month
Year
December
2023
MON
TUE
WED
THU
FRI
SAT
SUN
27 28 29 30 1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31
22 Dec 16:00

Contacts

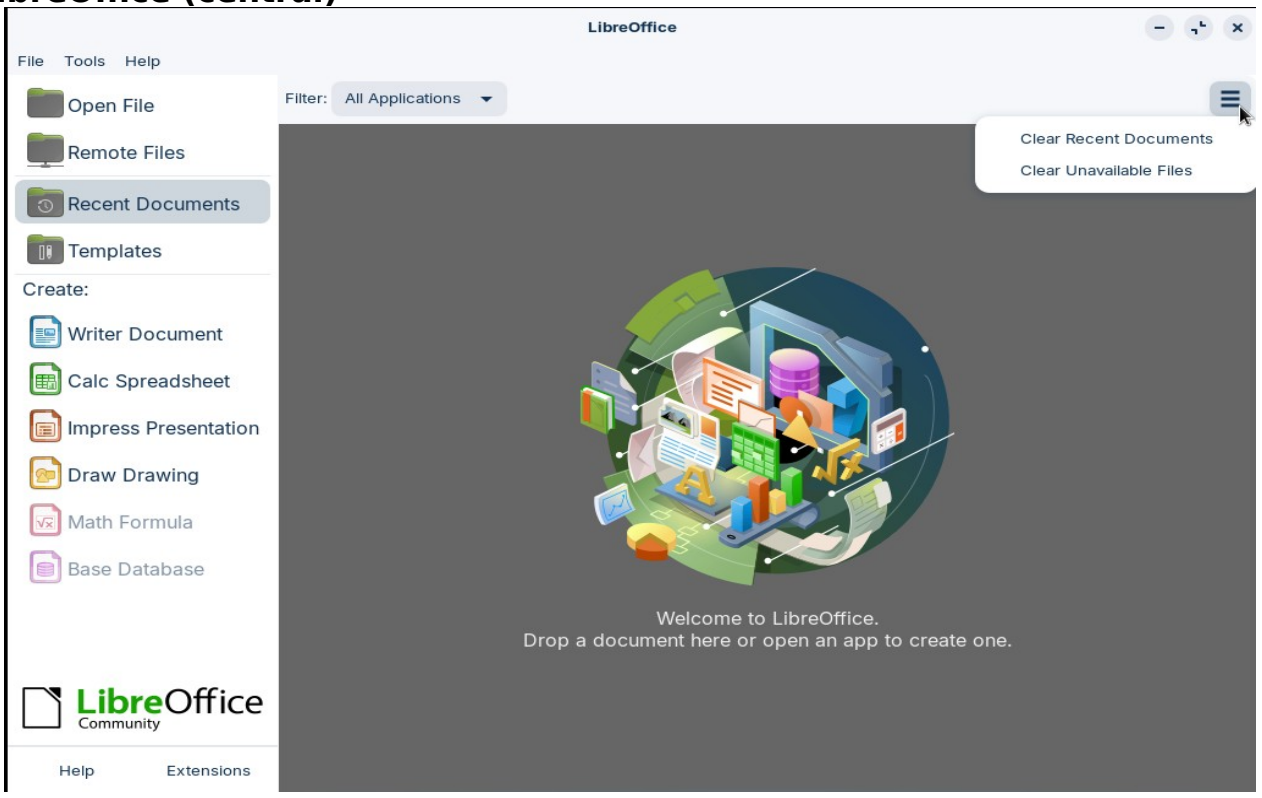

Quit
Contacts Setup
Done
Welcome
Please select your main address book: this is where new contacts will be added. If you keep your contacts in an online account, you can add them using the online accounts settings.
Local Address Book
22 Dec 16:01


Contacts
Cancel
New Contact
Add
Type to search
Add name
Personal
E-mail address
Personal
Add e-mail
Phone number
Mobile
Add number
Website
https://example.com
Nickname
Birthday
Set Birthday
Address
Home
22 Dec 16:02

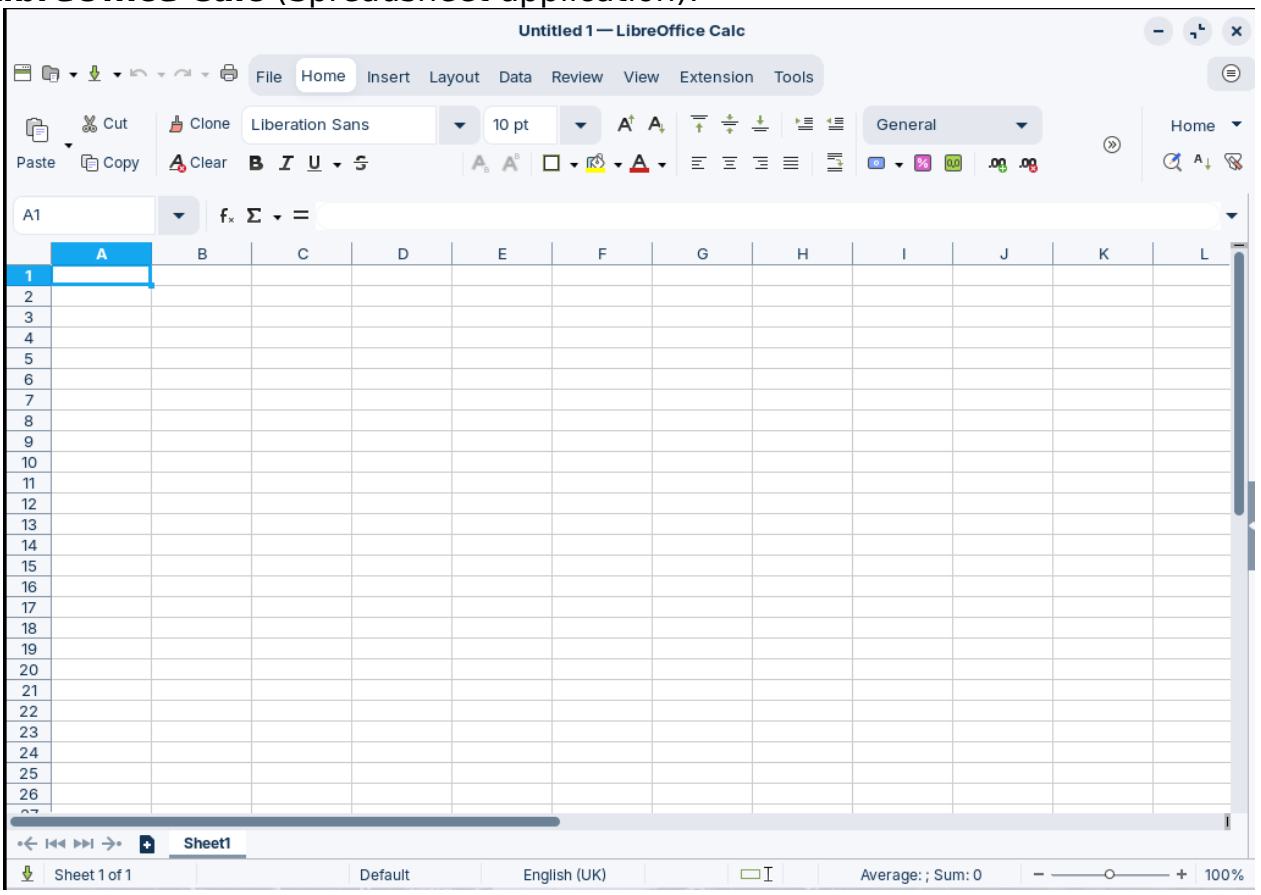
Evolution (Linux equivalent of Outlook with Calendar):



LibreOffice (central)

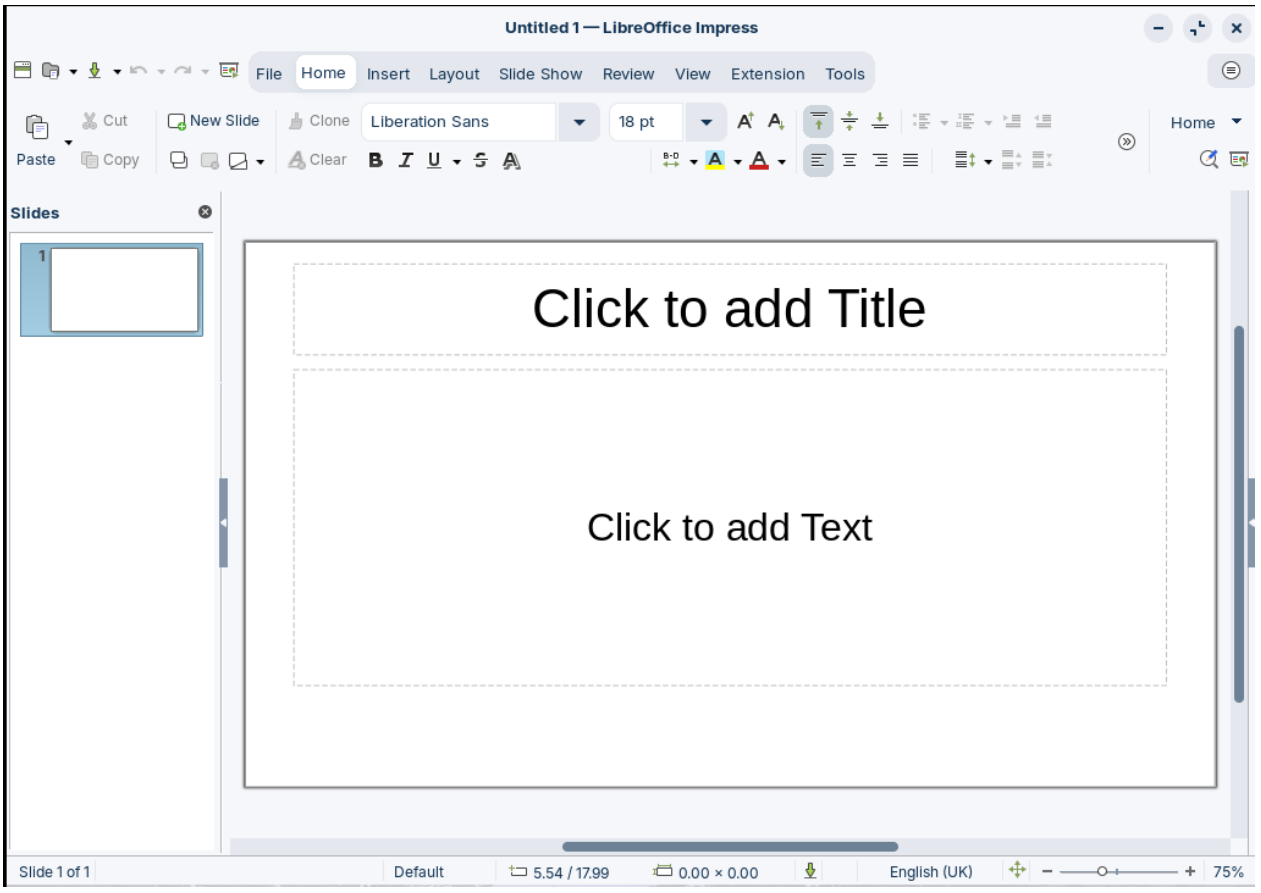


LibreOffice Calc (Spreadsheet application):

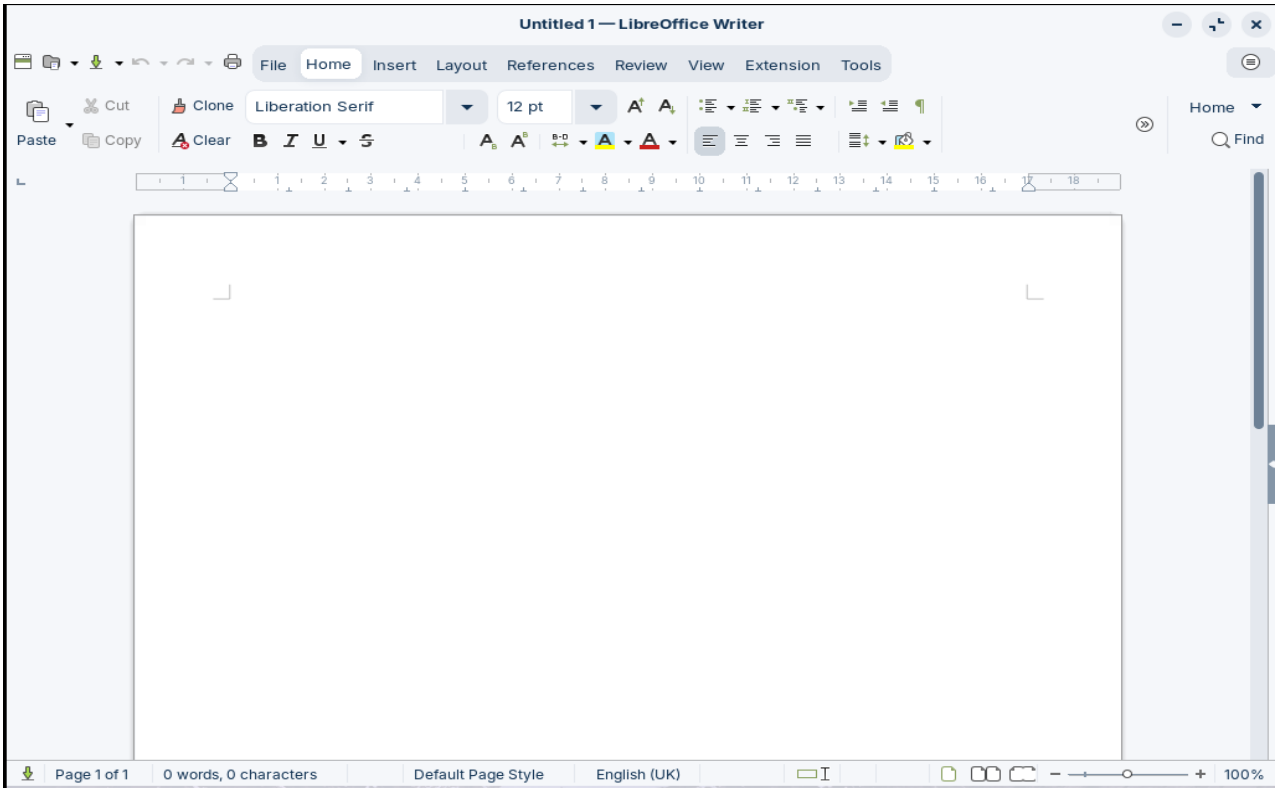


LibreOffice Draw - already covered on page 50

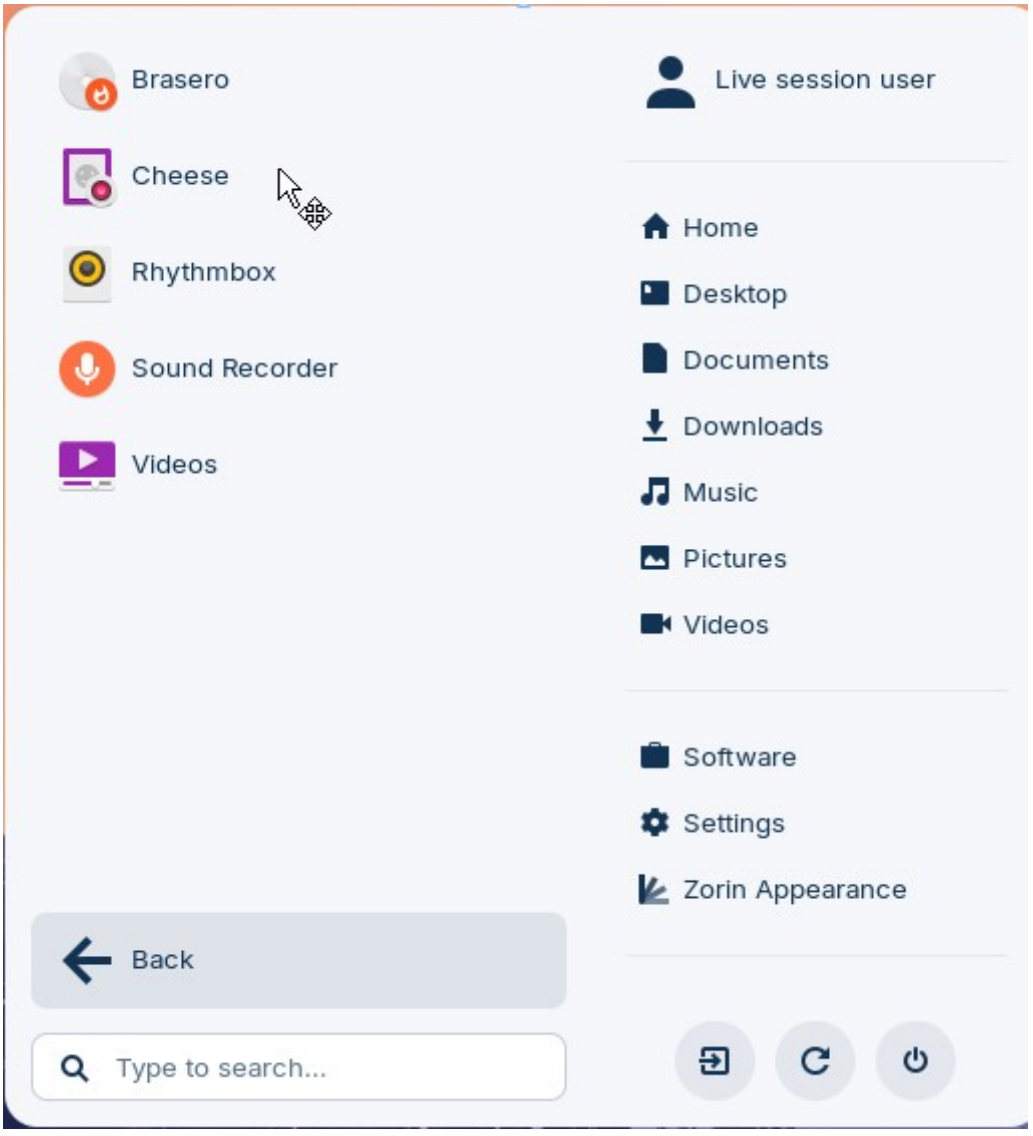
LibreOffice Impress - Presentation application.



LibreOffice Writer - Text Processor.

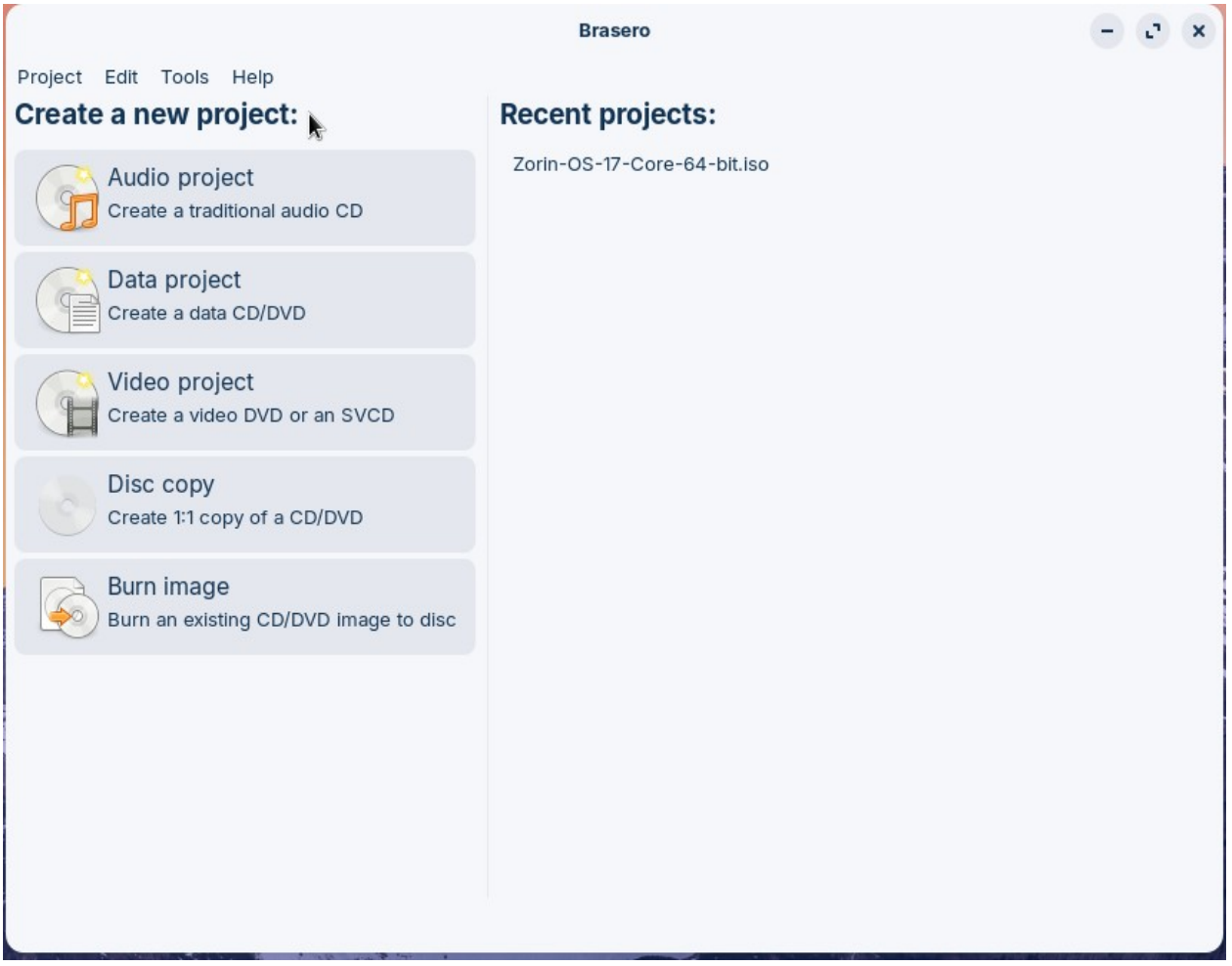


v. Sound & Video;



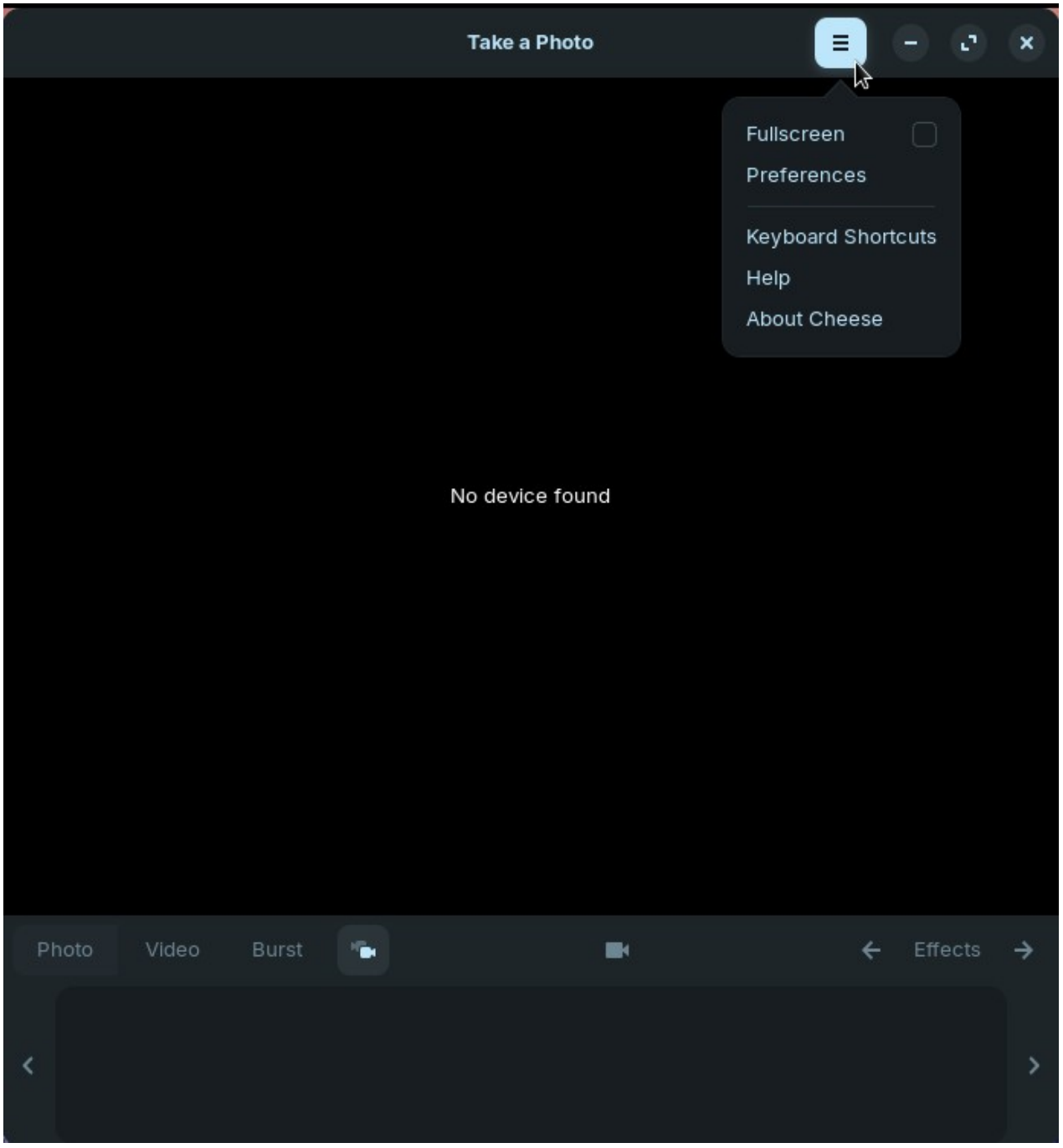
This section comprises of **Brasero** (disc burner – Audio, Data, DVD, Video, Music), **Cheese** (Web cam application with built-in effects), **Rhythmbox** (default audio player), **Sound Recorder, Videos** (default movie/video file player).

Brasero



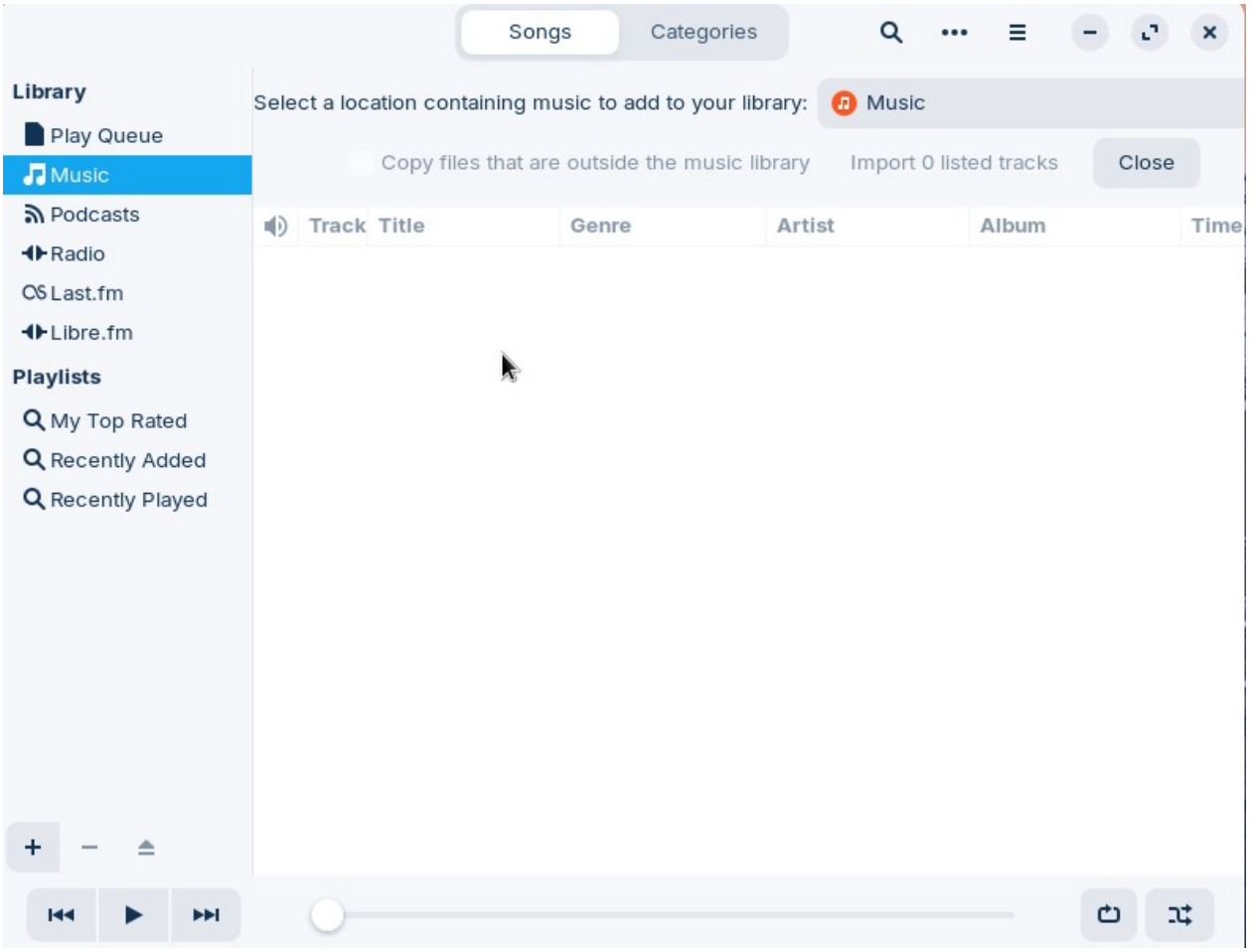
Always launch Brasero first before burning a disc. Right-clicking an .iso and then from a context menu selecting ‘Burn with Brasero’ has always led me to burn coasters!

Cheese (Webcam application).

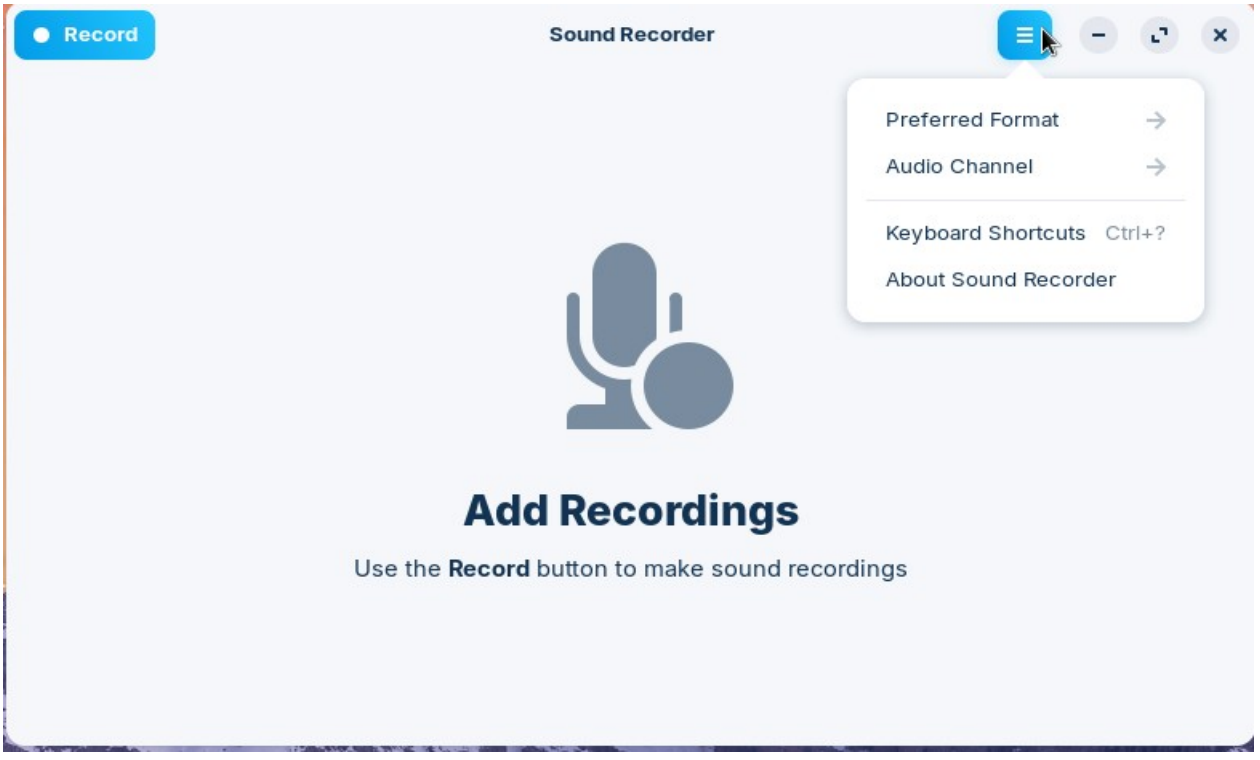


Currently I don’t have a webcam attached, hence the black screen!

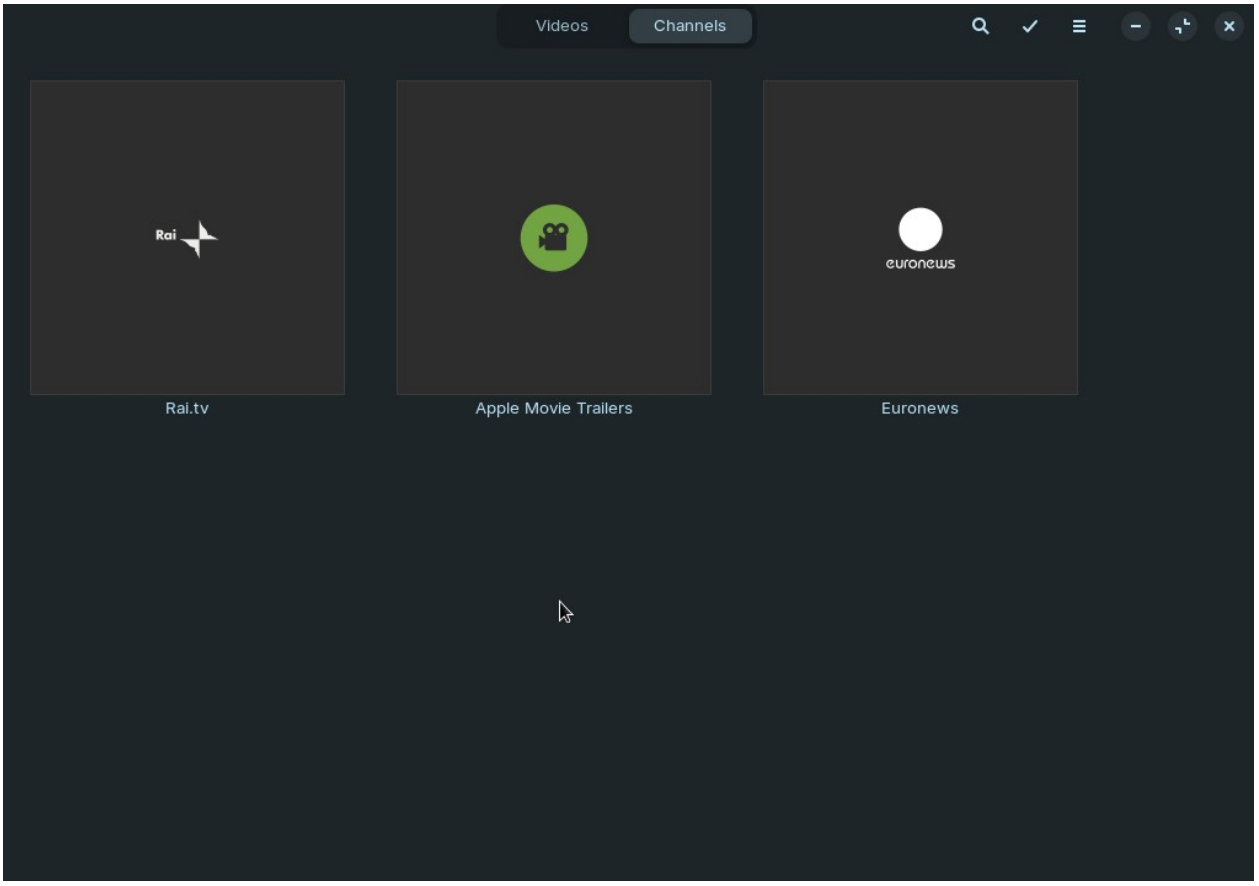
Rhythmbox (Application to play your music collection, internet radio, online music accounts).



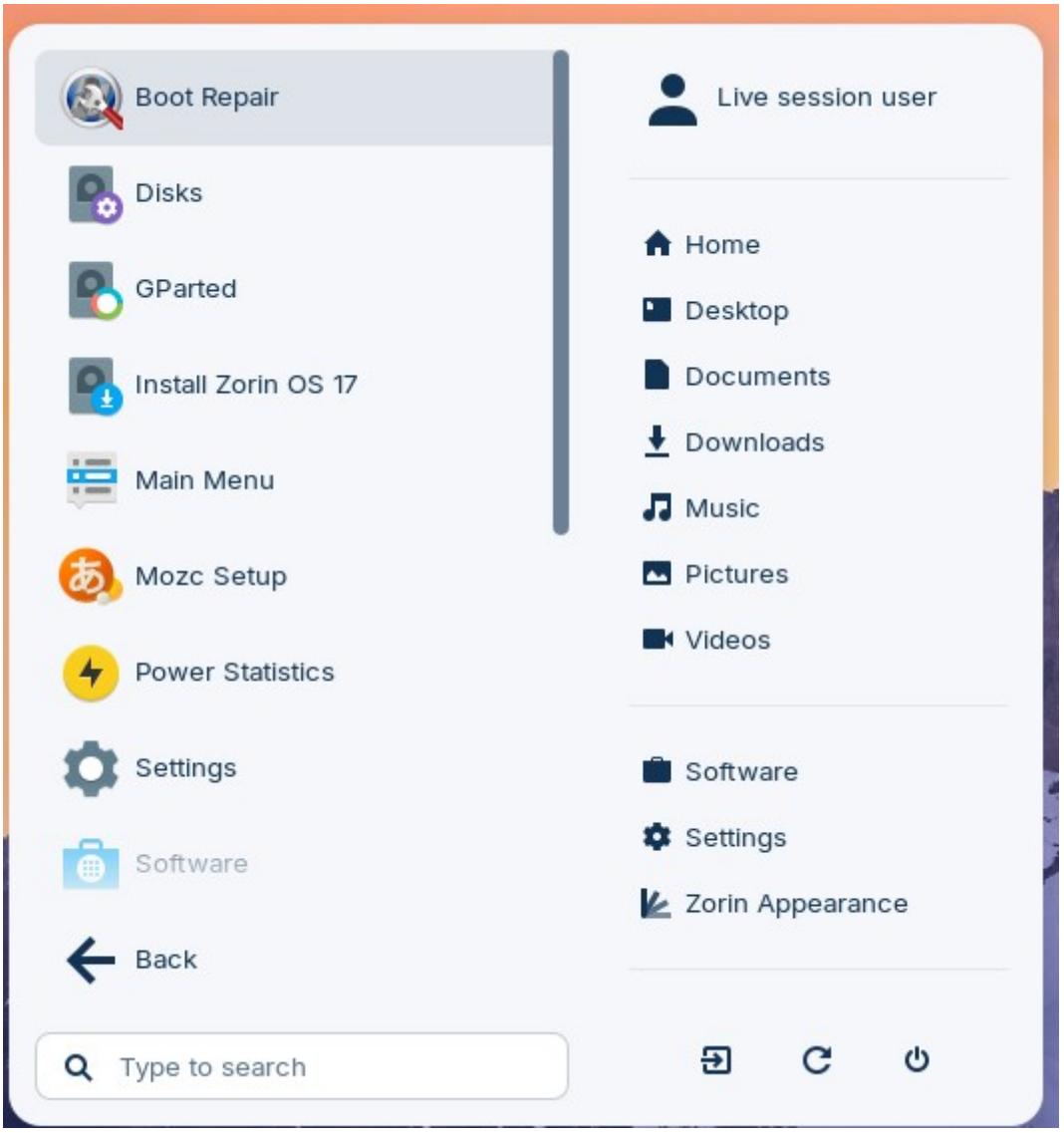
Sound recorder (use a microphone or the mic built in to your webcam).



Videos (this is a multimedia application that can also play audio files as well as videos). Additionally can access Internet media streams as shown below.

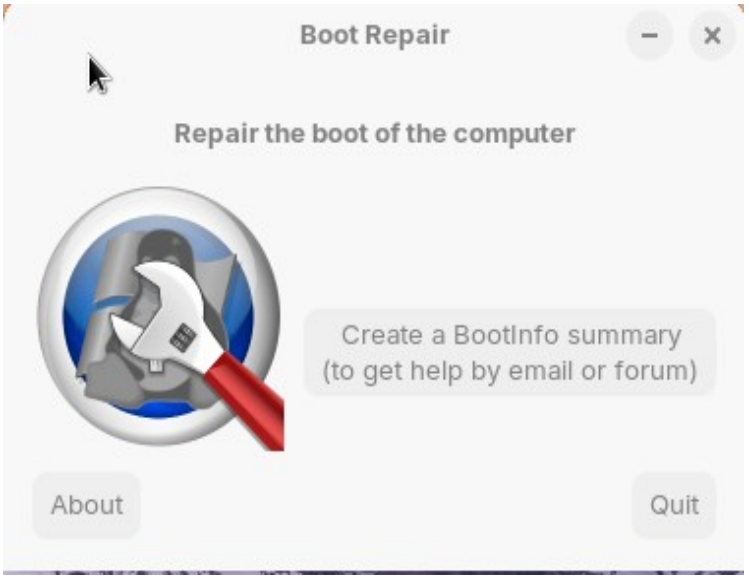


vi. a. System Tools – Top;

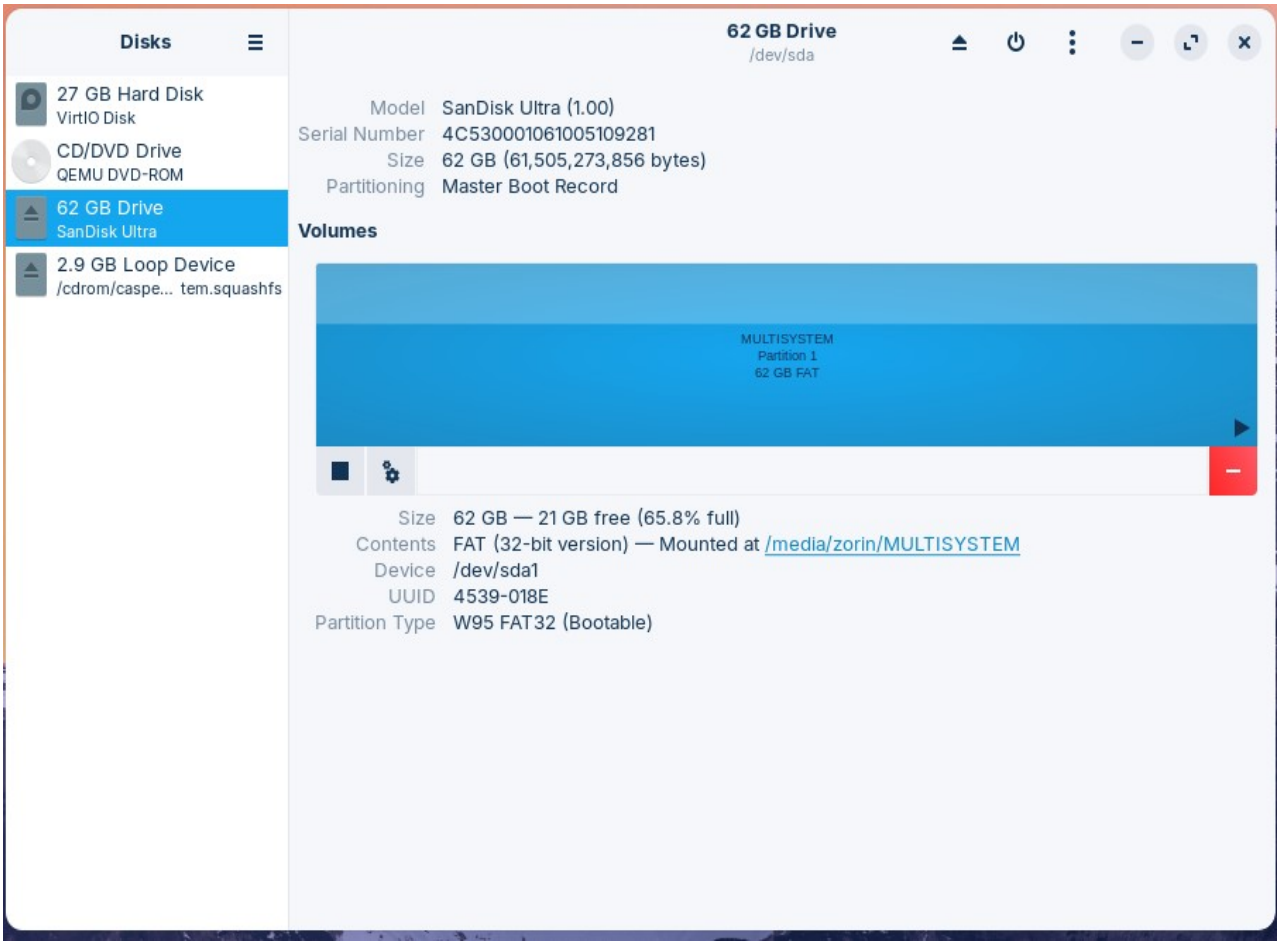


In live mode comprises **Boot Repair, Disks, GParted, Install Zorin OS 17, Main Menu, Mozc Setup, Power Statistics, Settings.**

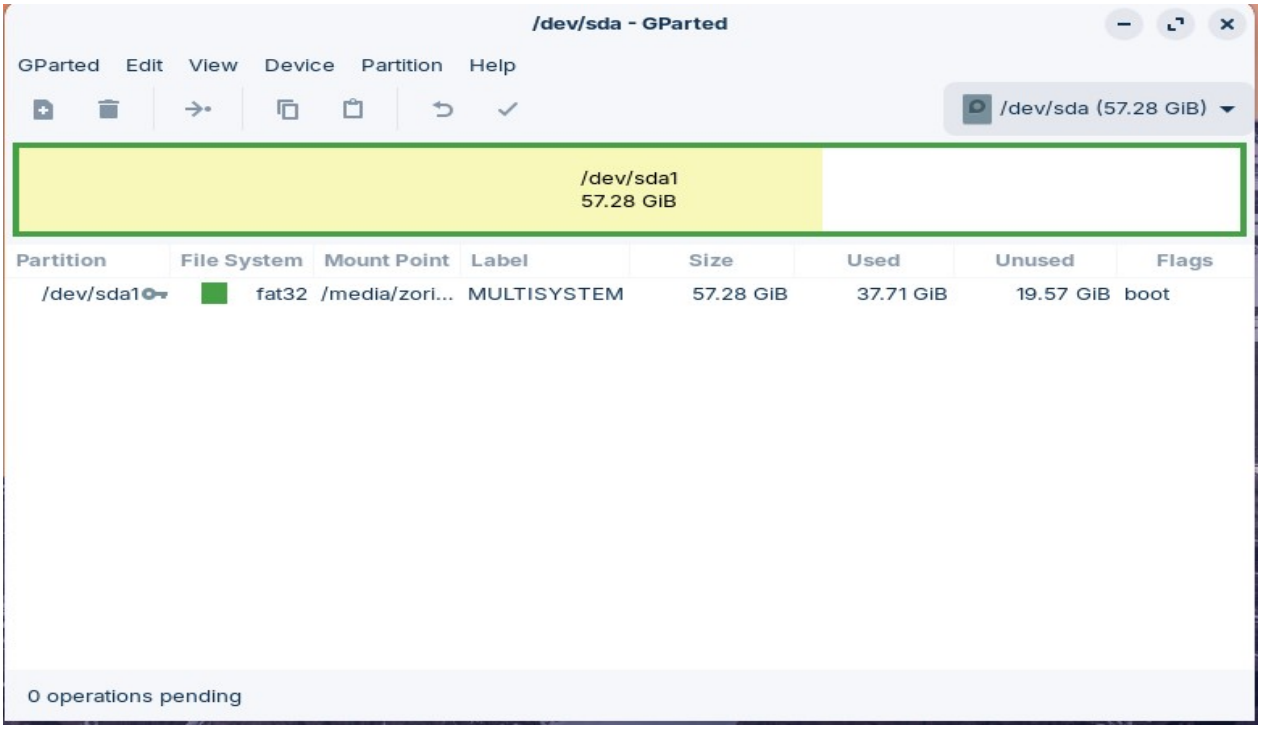
Boot Repair, (this item is only present while running in live mode, should you have issues with the installed system).



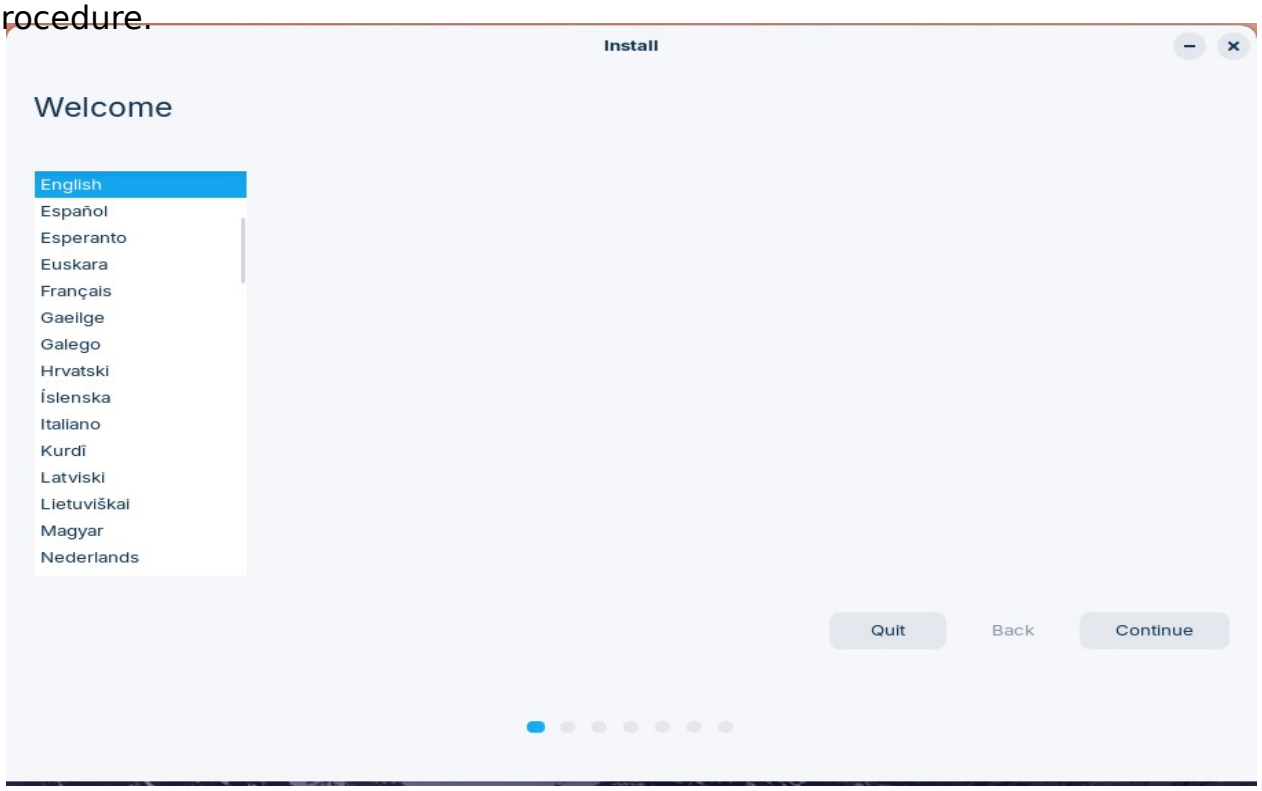
Disks (for mounting / unmounting and safely powering off / removing external / additional drives, including USB thumb drives, and can also be used to check the current health of your hard drive/s),



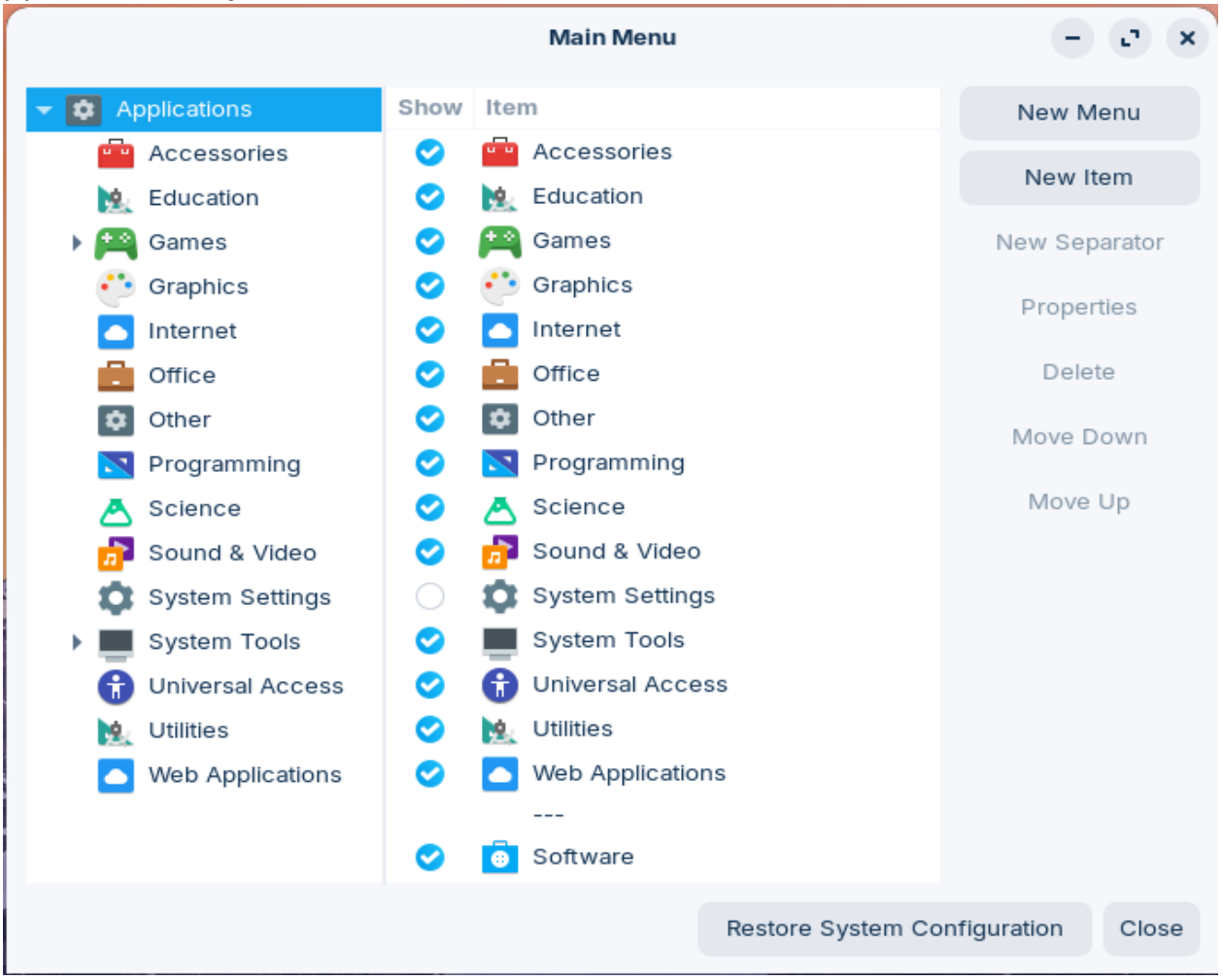
Gparted (Gnome Partition Editor – for partitioning Hard Drive – gets removed after installation!).



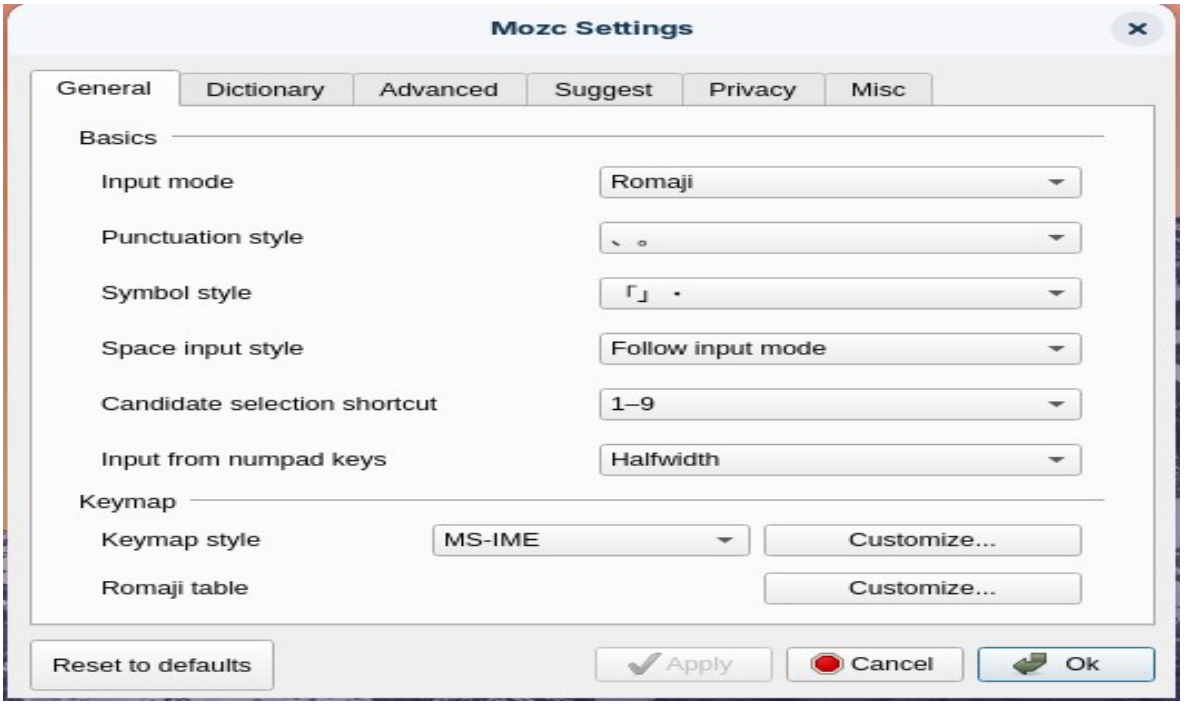
Install Zorin OS 17 (this launches the installation to hard disk interface – don't do this until you are happy that Zorin performs as you expect it to in live mode – you could also use the shortcut on the desktop to start the installation procedure.



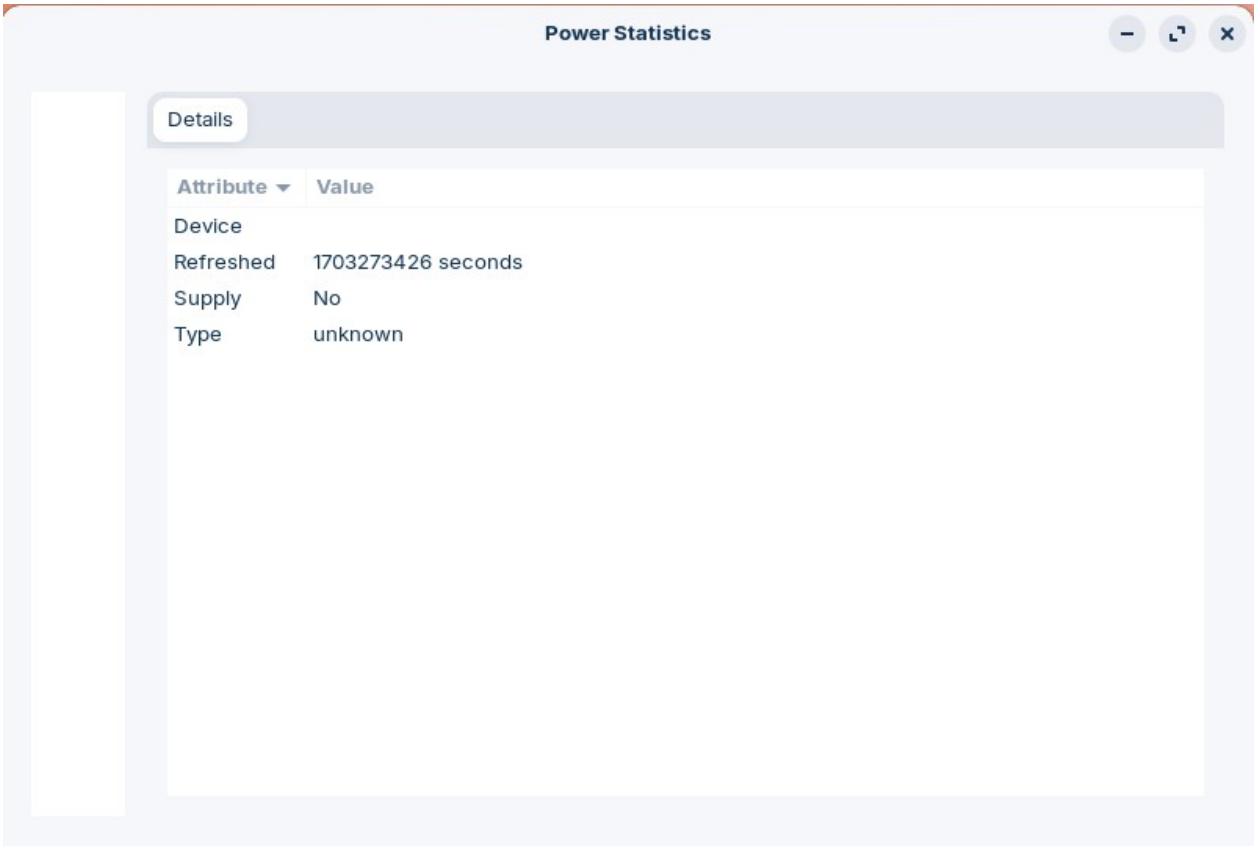
Main Menu – (Al Acarte Menu editor to edit your main menu to show hide applications as you so wish and add new ones),



Mozc Setup, (Japanese Input settings),

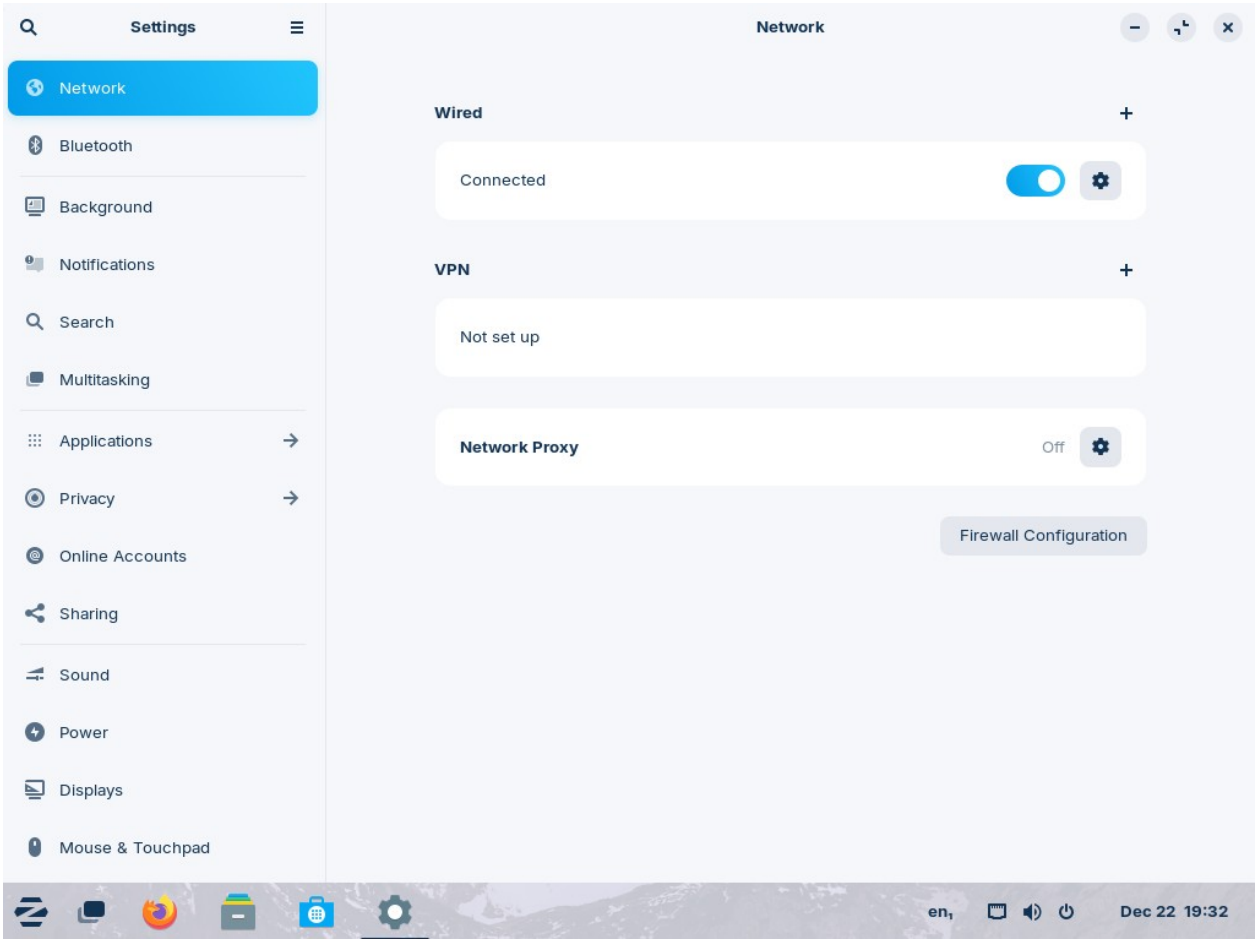


Power Statistics (Processor wakeups information),

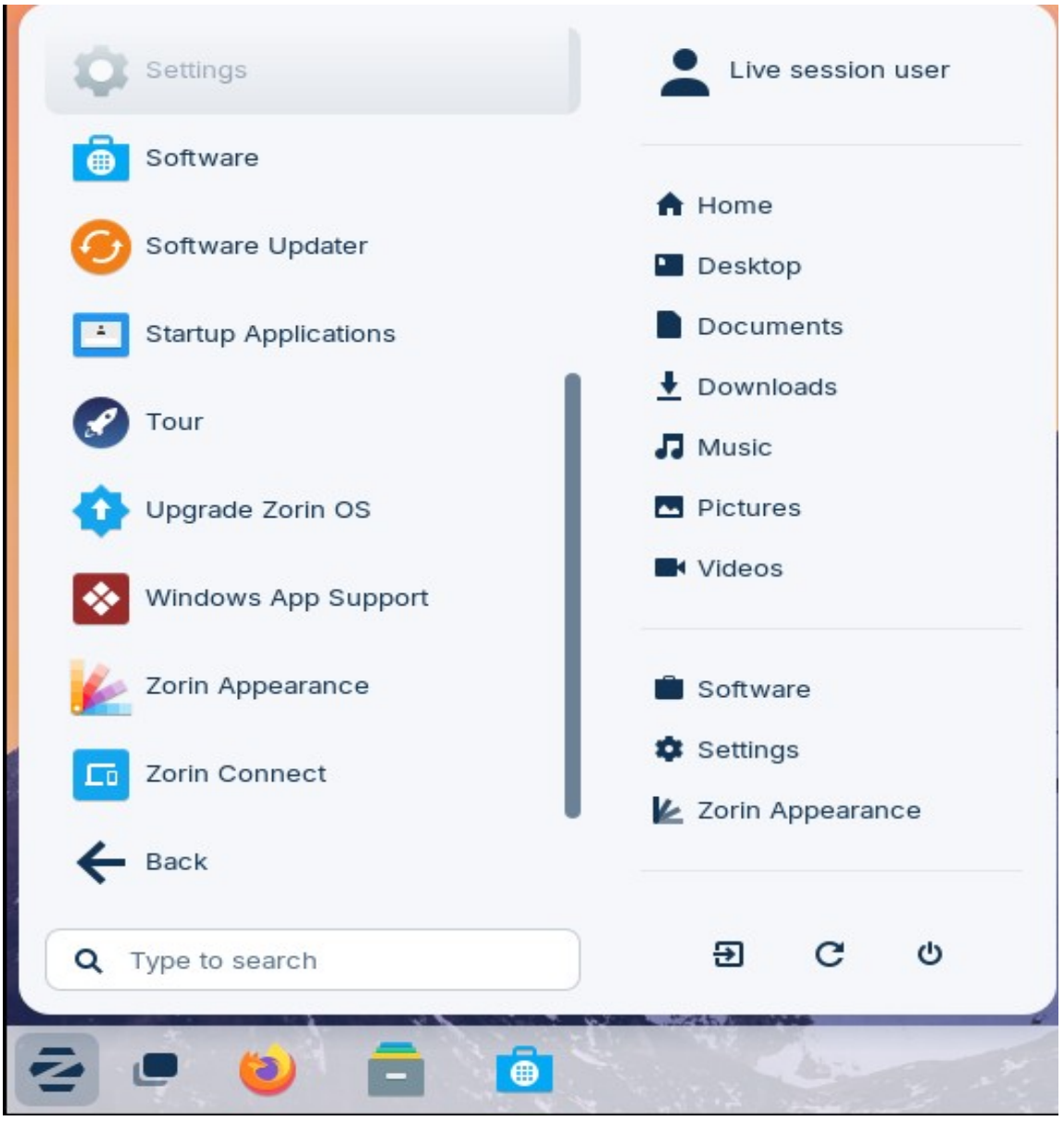


No information given as screenshot of Power Statistics is of VM (Virtual Machine).

Settings (the GNU/Linux equivalent of ‘Control Panel’ but very different in lots of ways but simple enough to understand – covered later in the manual),



vi. b. System Tools – Bottom



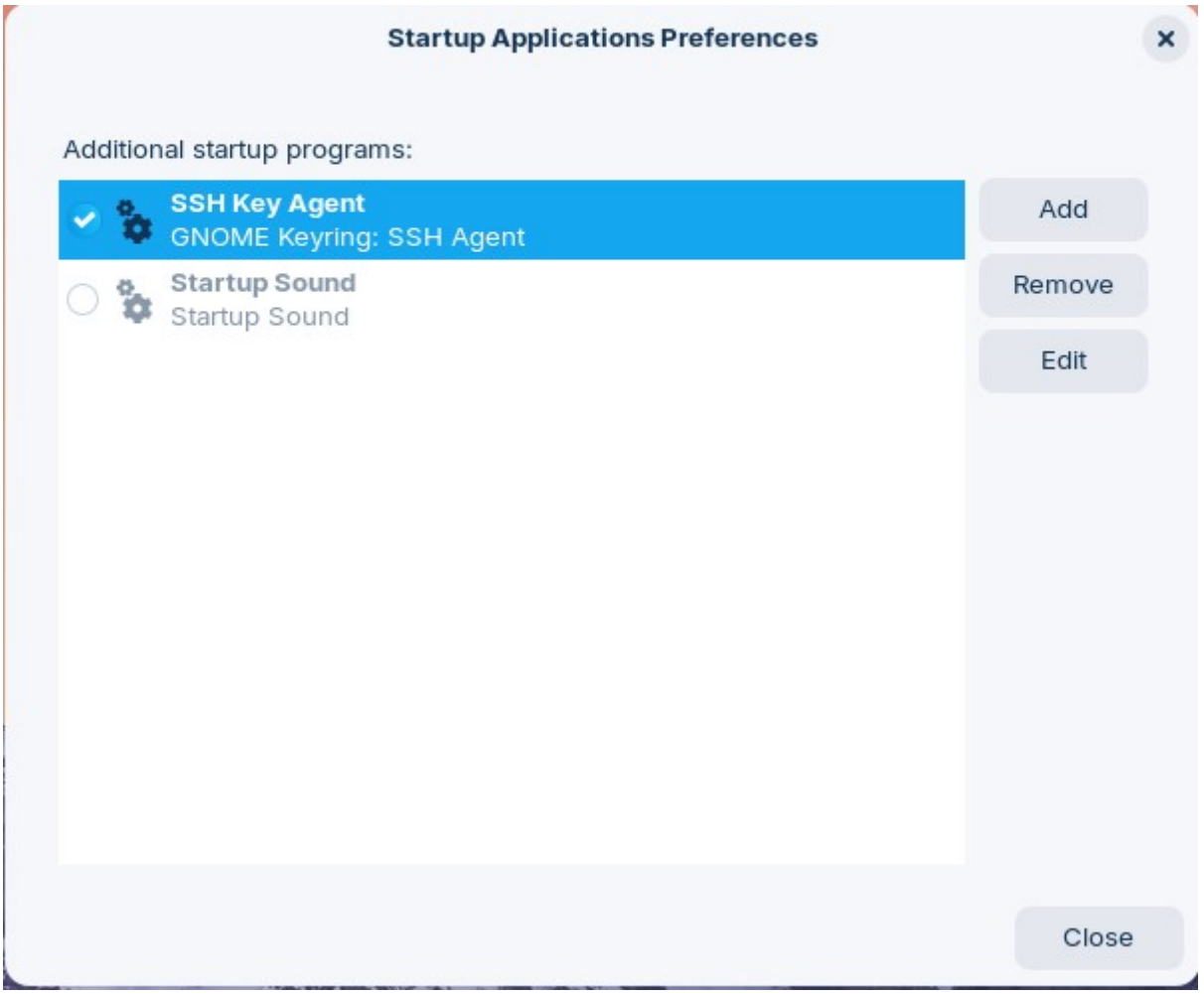
Here we have **Software** (Main source of Applications, predominantly in **Flatpak** format, but other formats included, such as **APT**, **Software Updater** which updates your System Software as well as Applications, **Startup Applications** are those which start to run automatically immediately after you have signed in to the desktop, **Tour**, a slideshow presentation of guiding you round the layout and features of the OS (Operating System), **Upgrade Zorin OS** is a tool designed to allow you to upgrade to the next major release of Zorin, which will be 18 - the tool Is not currently ready for use with Zorin 17, but is available for Zorin 15 for those wishing to upgrade to 16, and for Zorin 16

users it is also available to upgrade to the latest release, 17.

Windows App Support, when you select this it will install the current stable version of **WINE** (Wine Is No Emulator), together with **PlayOnLinux**, **Zorin Appearance** contains a multitude of different ways for your Desktop to look and behave, and lastly **Zorin Connect**, software which enables your smartphone to be connected to your Zorin Desktop.

Software has been covered elsewhere in the manual(see page 26), so will now look at:

Startup Applications:

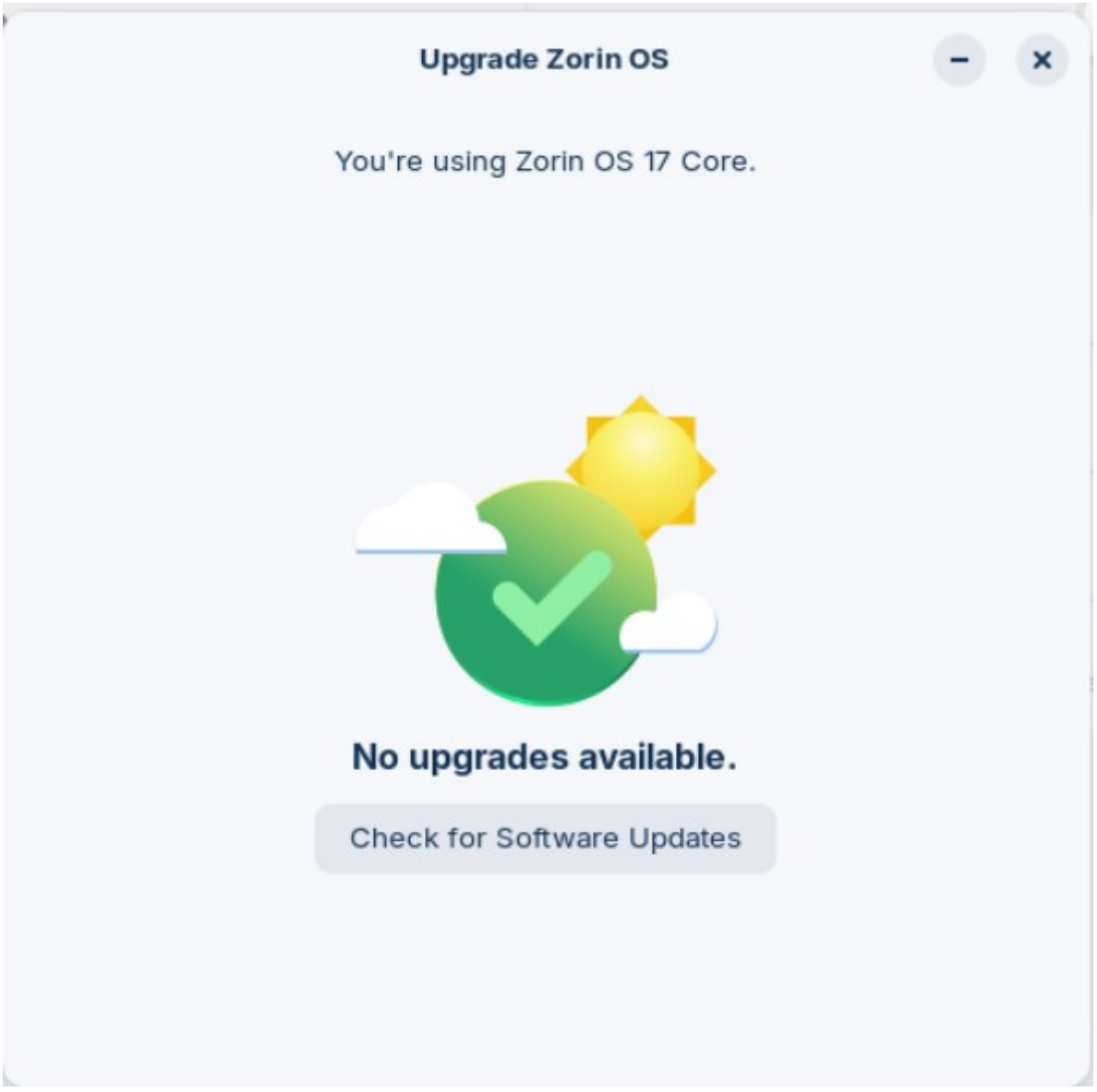


Notice that he **Startup Sound** only works during live mode. After installation it becomes disabled. If you like the startup sound being present after you login, check mark the circle to the left, then select the **Close** button. You can **add** or **remove** applications you want to run automatically after you have logged in. You can edit entries, so that if you wanted a different startup sound you could change it for another one.

Tour (This is a slideshow built into the system to help show you around the **Desktop**, starting with the **Menu**, then **Appearance** (where you choose how your Desktop Environment should look to your personal preferences, advisory if you are running inside a Virtual Machine as you get better performance if installed, option to **Connect Online Accounts** (this excludes Facebook because Gnome developers have not resolved the issue since it was discovered 7 years ago, or it could be down to Facebook not liking GNU/Linux. (I can't stand Facebook, never been on it, never will!), Link your phone and computer with **Zorin Connect** - you need to download the smartphone app, **Zorin Connect**, in order to use this function, Use Software to find and install apps (but you are not limited to using the Software Channel, but more on that later), final slide offering a link to the **Help** section of ZorinOS, https://help.zorin.com/).



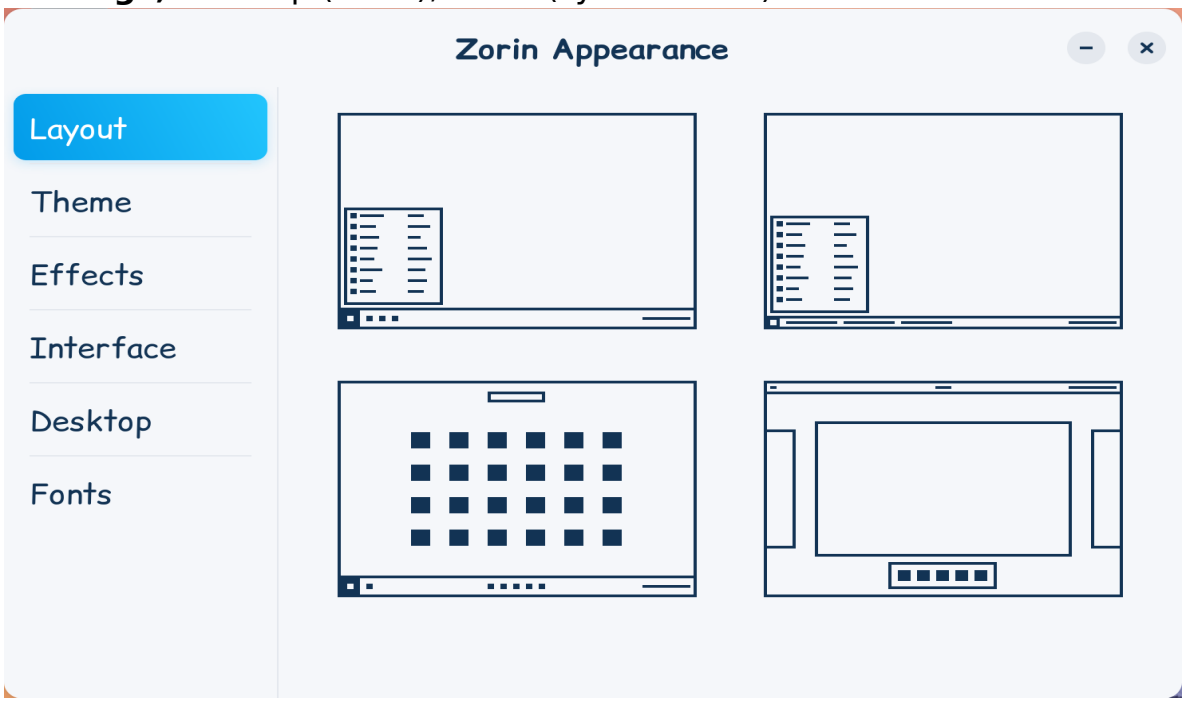
Upgrade Zorin OS - This is the upgrade tool that allows you to upgrade to the newest version of Zorin OS. Once it is up and running, always err on the side of caution by backing up either your whole system, or just the /home folder, including hidden files which store application information/preferences - if they are not shown, press Ctrl+ H to unhide them - they all start with a period/full stop, e.g., .wine, this would hold all your WINE configurations for any Windows Applications you install.



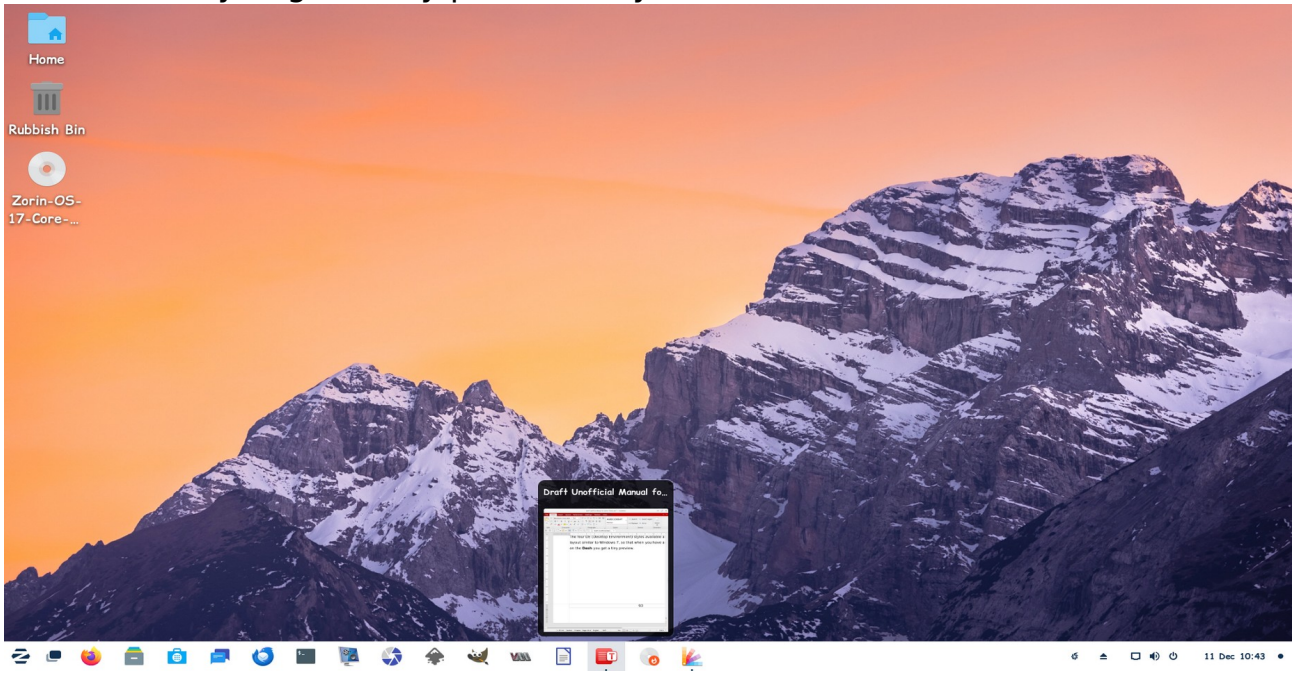
Windows App Support - This installs the current version of **WINE (WINE Is No Emulator)**, including **PlayOnLinux** for you to install Windows Applications/Games. Please be aware that not all Windows Applications will run using WINE. To find out what runs, visit the commercial site of the WINE developers here:
https://www.codeweavers.com/compatibility

3. Zorin Appearance

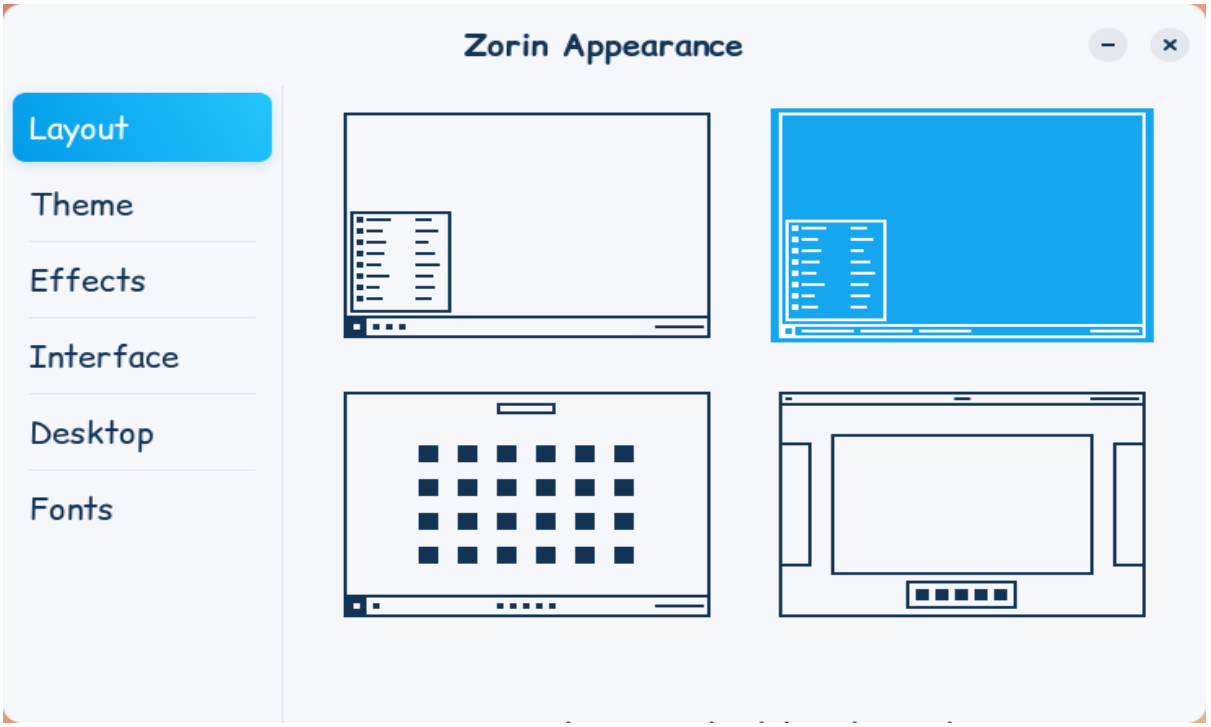
This is where you can change your **Layout** (DE styling)**, Theme** (colours, light/dark)**, Effects** (Animations, Spatial Desktop (Cube), **Interface** (Titlebar Buttons, Left Super Key (binding) and Advanced Window Tiling and **Taskbar Settings,** Desktop (icons), Fonts (system-wide).

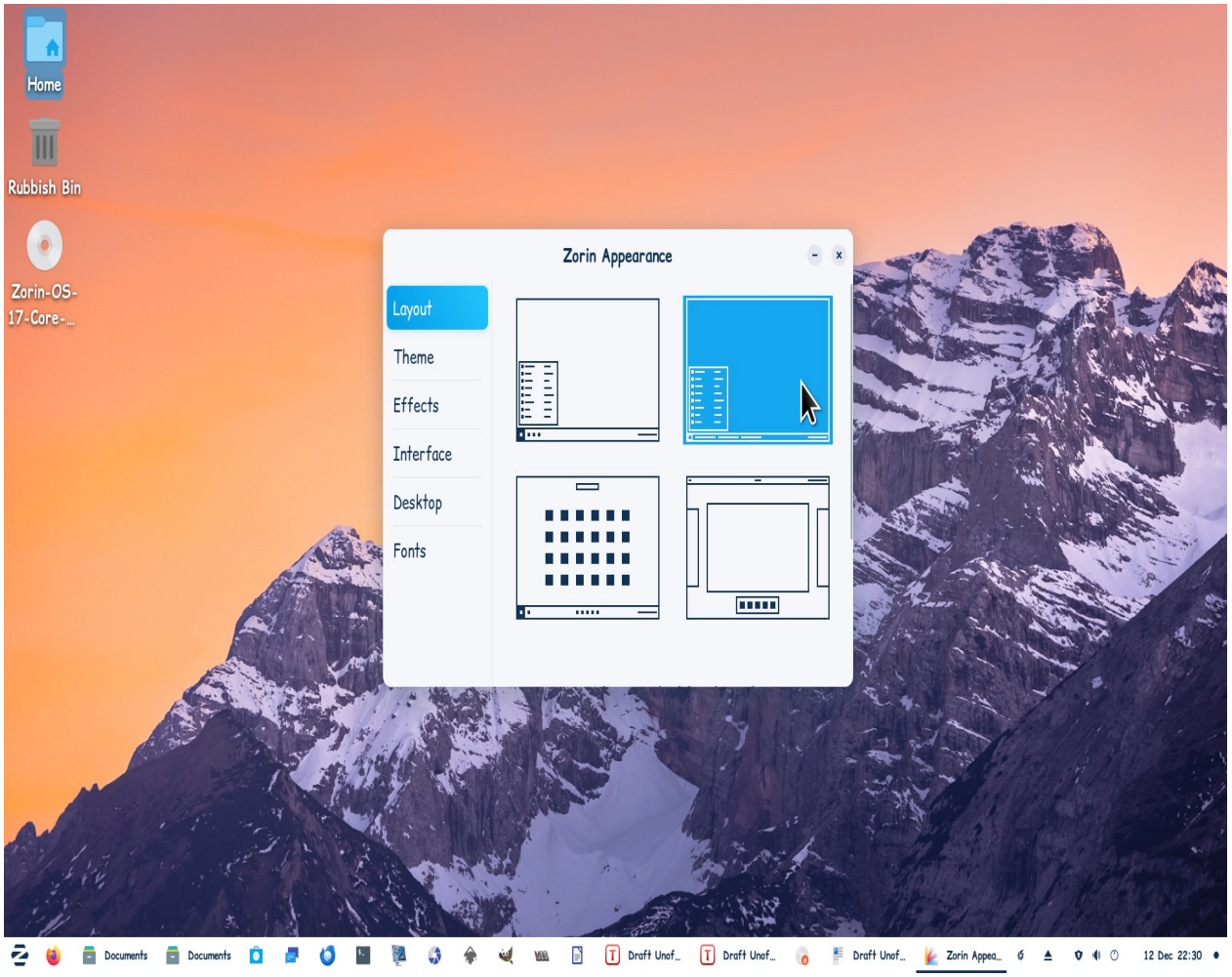


The four DE (Desktop Environment) styles available are as follows. Top Left is a layout similar to Windows 7, so that when you have an application open that is on the **Dash** you get a tiny preview as you hover over the icon.

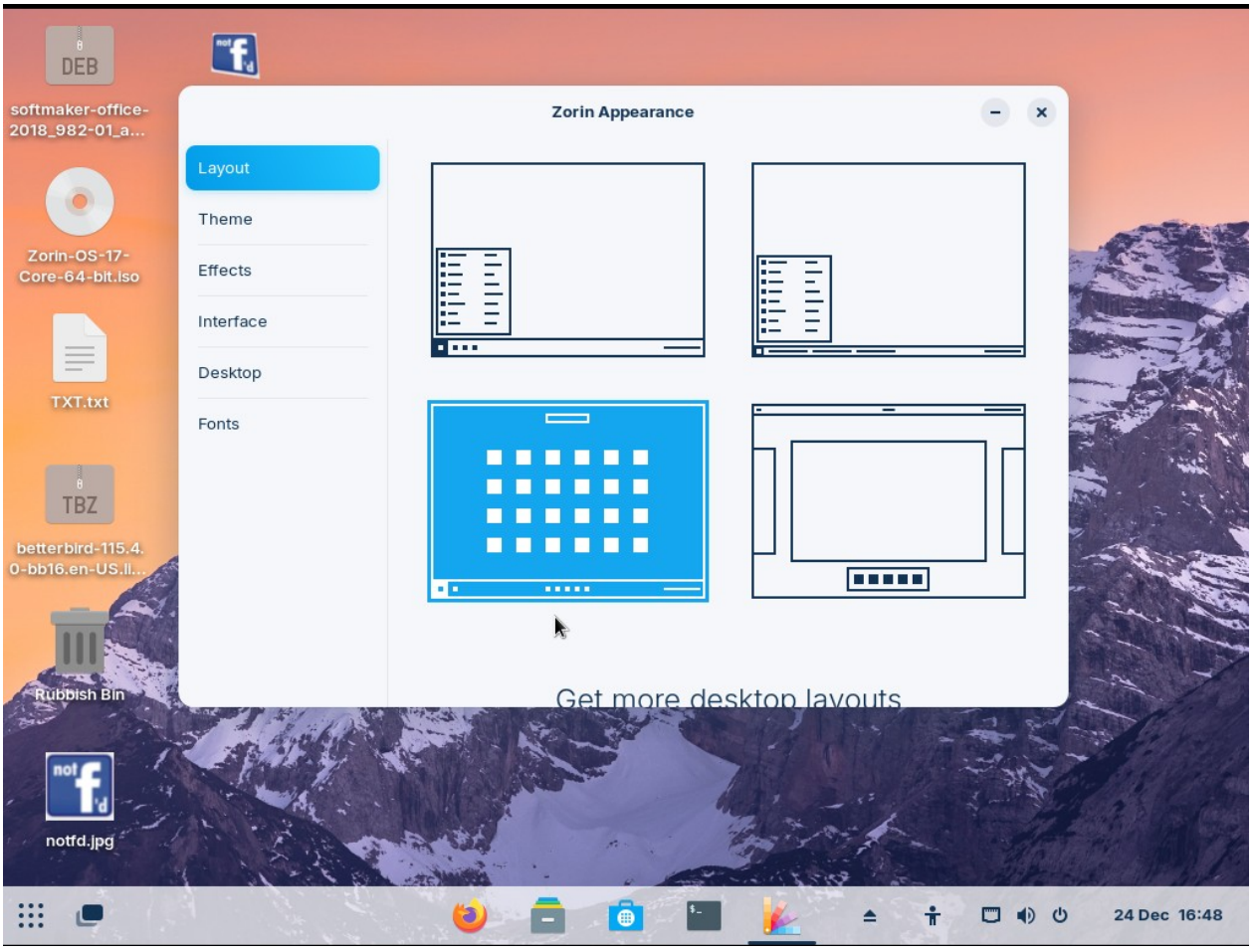


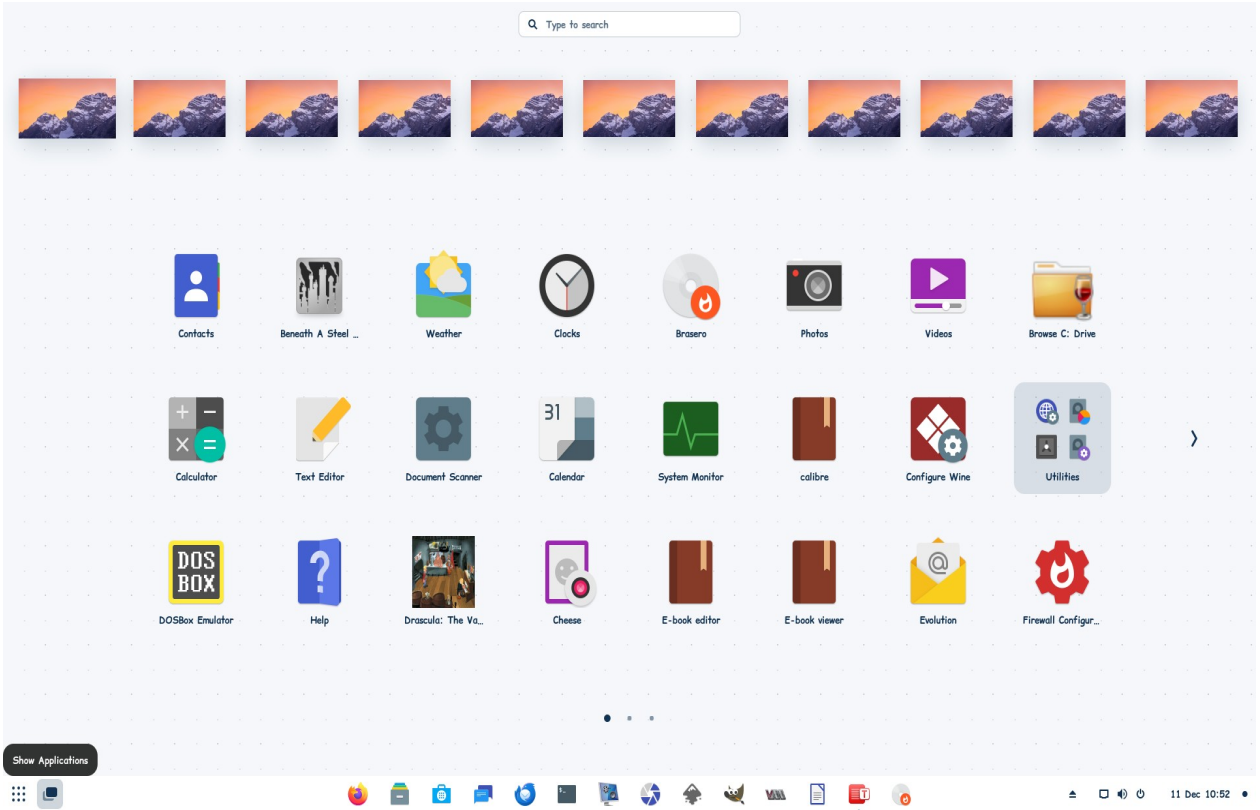
The top right option is more like Windows 2000 where the **name of the application** that is open is shown in the **Dash** as opposed to **Icons.**





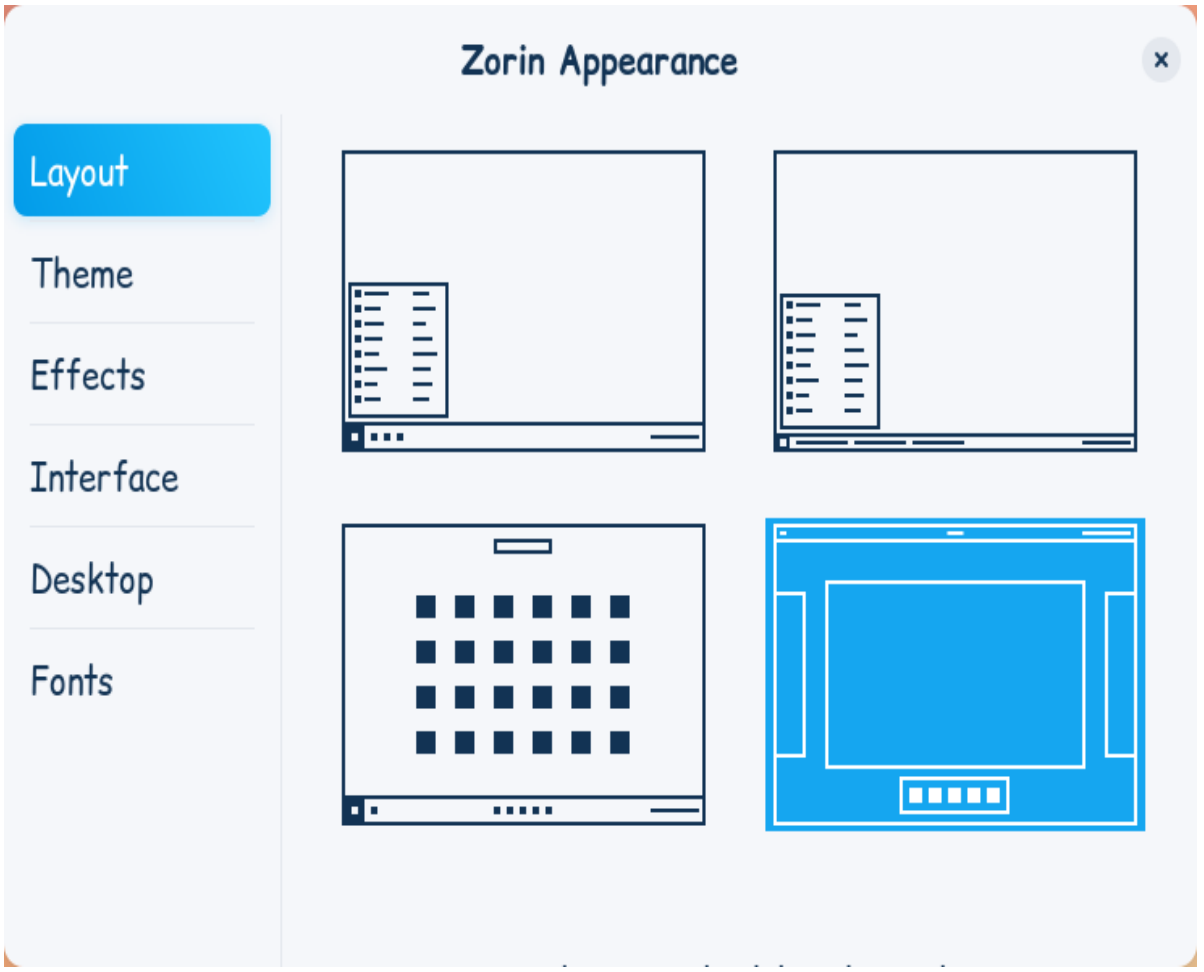
The bottom left style is aimed at Tablets and touch screens and is similar to Pantheon as used in another distribution.

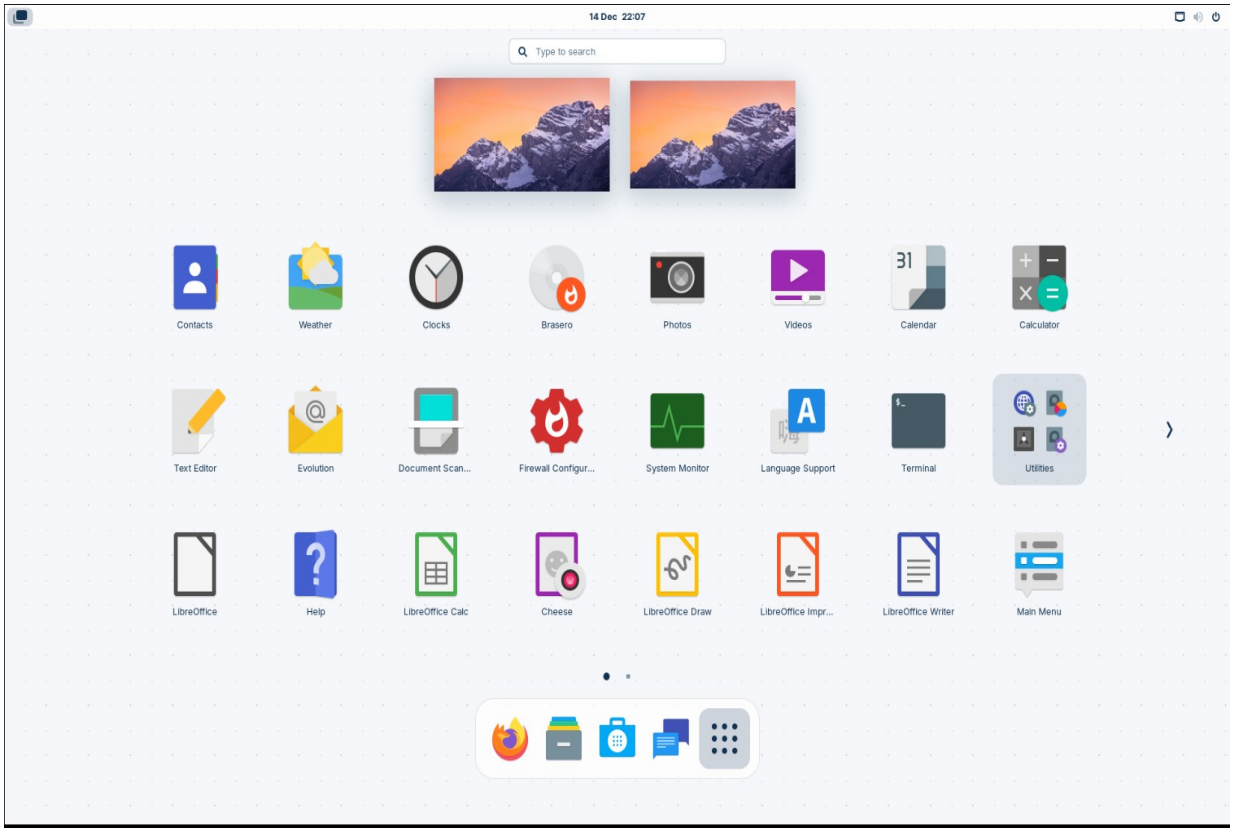




The mini screens at the top indicate you have potentially 12 different workspaces at your disposal when you select the ‘Grid’ Menu button on the **Dash**. The dots at the bottom of the grid indicate that there are 3 screens of applications in total, each screen containing up to 24 icons per screen. To move to the next screen, click on the right arrow. The search bar at the top to find applications by name should you wish to do so. I have noticed that the first page of applications on my screenshot is not in strict alphabetical order but the subsequent pages are.

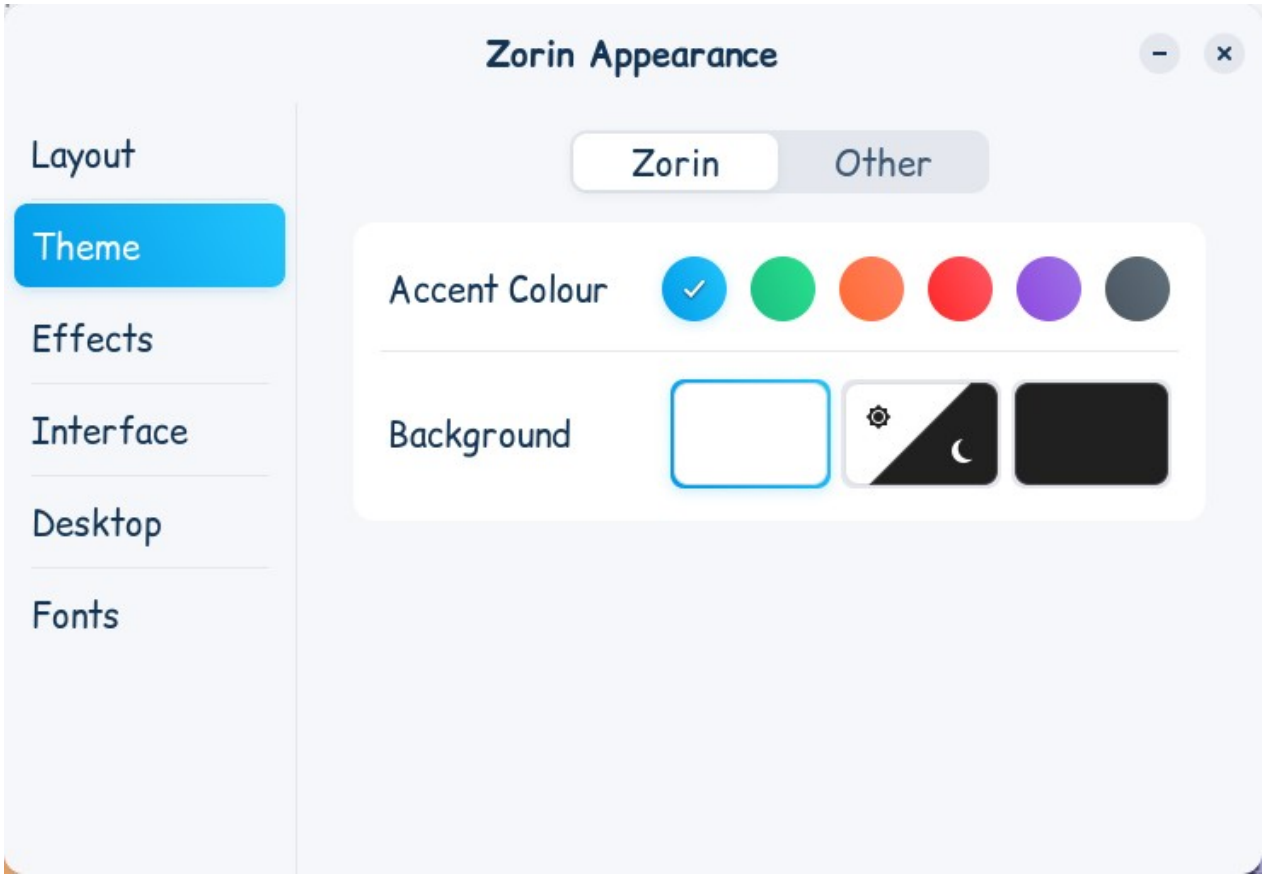
The last one, bottom right, is a Gnome style desktop which is different to the original concept of Gnome and I for one found it painful to use. To see the **Dash** at the Bottom you have to click on the **Activities Overview** button at the top. I also discovered that the Window Buttons to minimise, maximise disappear, leaving only the close button option.


Zorin Appearance
Layout
Theme
Effects
Interface
Desktop
Fonts

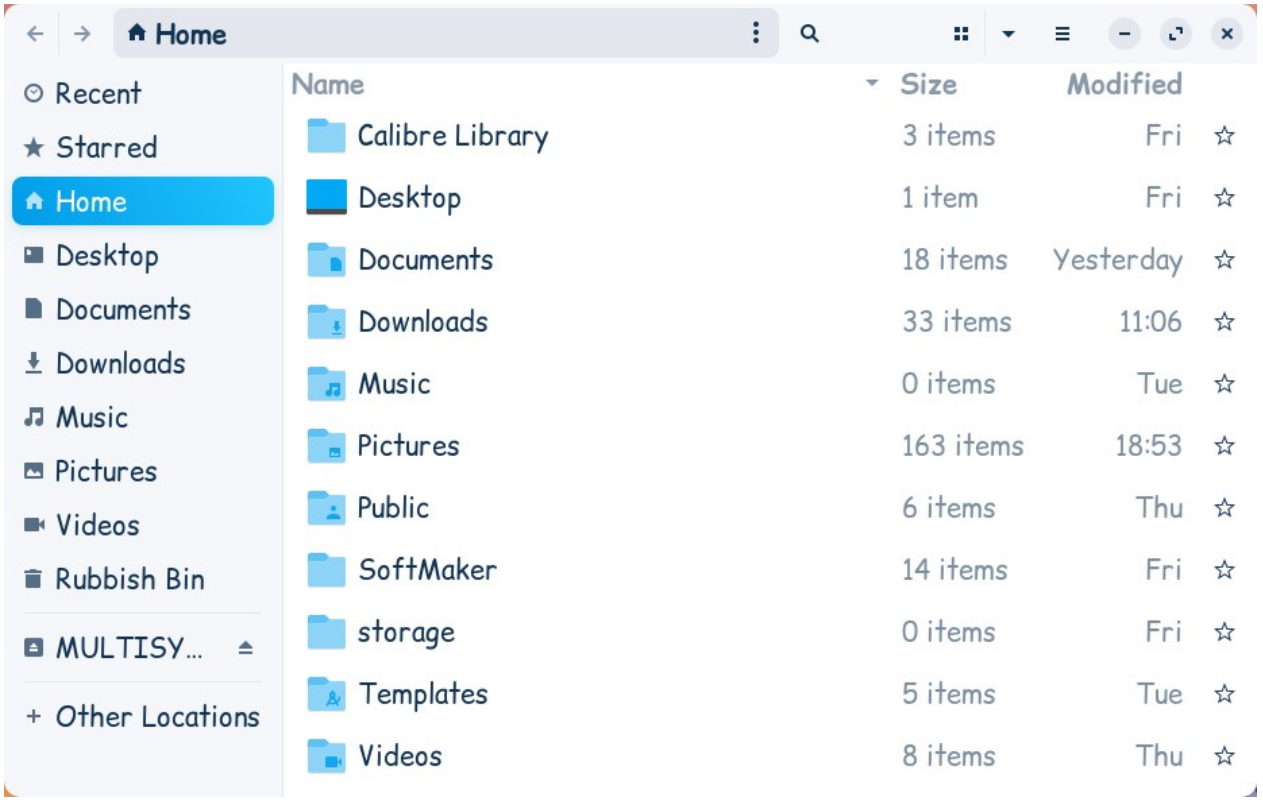

14 Dec 22:07
Type to search
Contacts
Weather
Clocks
Brasero
Photos
Videos
Calendar
Calculator
Text Editor
Evolution
Document Scan...
Firewall Configur...
System Monitor
Language Support
Terminal
Utilities
LibreOffice
Help
LibreOffice Calc
Cheese
LibreOffice Draw
LibreOffice Impr...
LibreOffice Writer
Main Menu

Theme

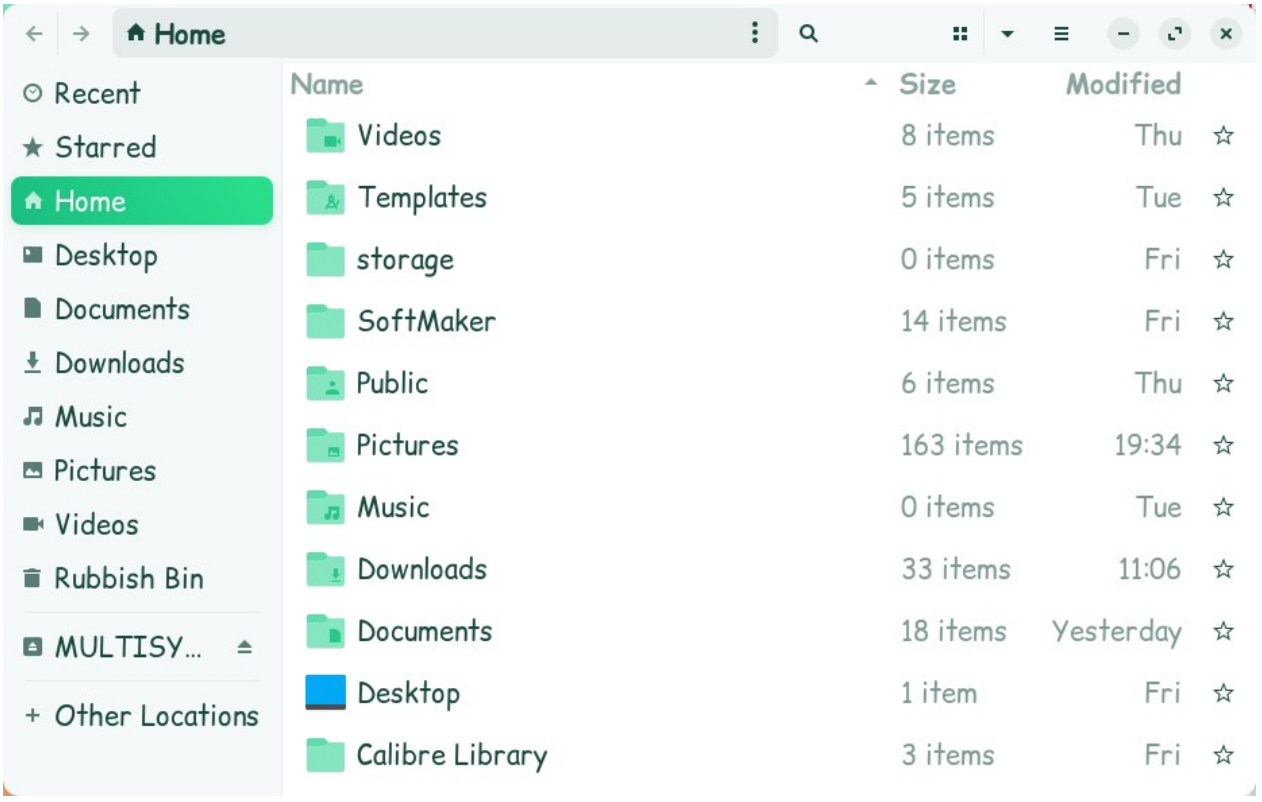
This option shows the different colour schemes available for Icons and Windows. There are two tabs, **Zorin** and **Other.**



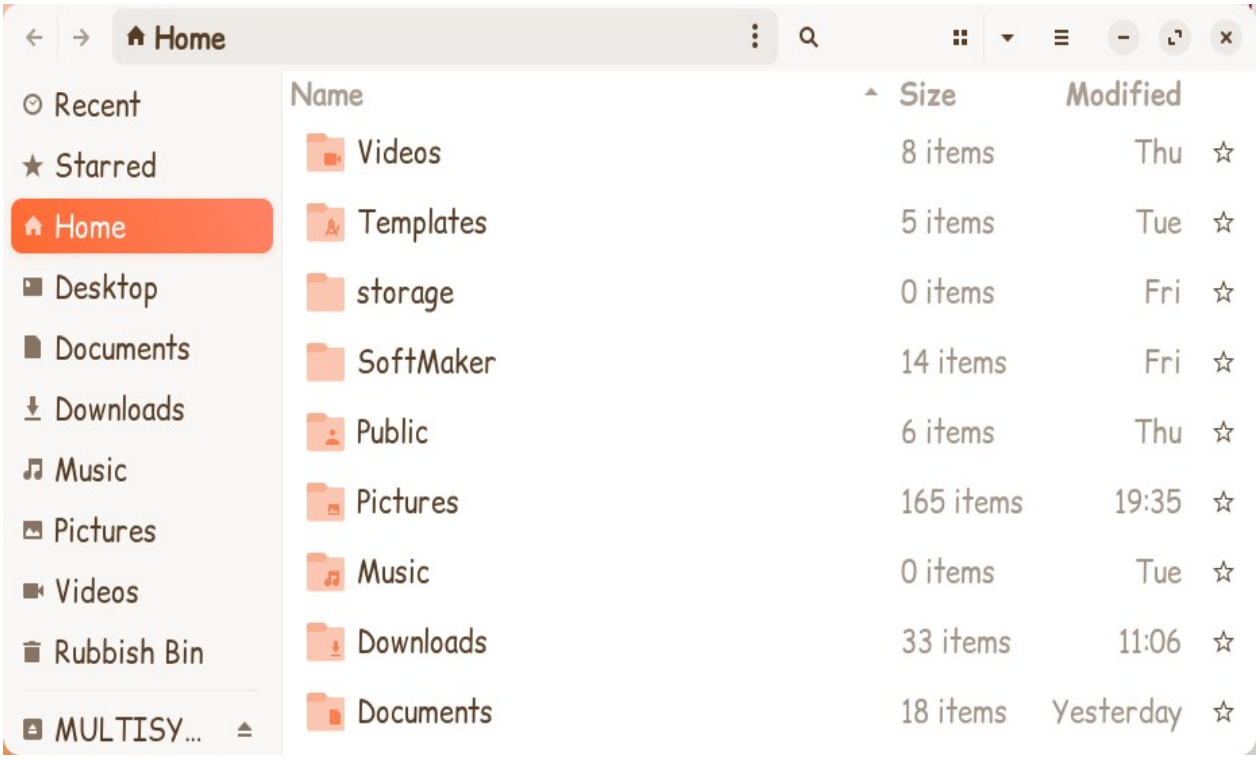
The Default Zorin Accent Colour is Blue:



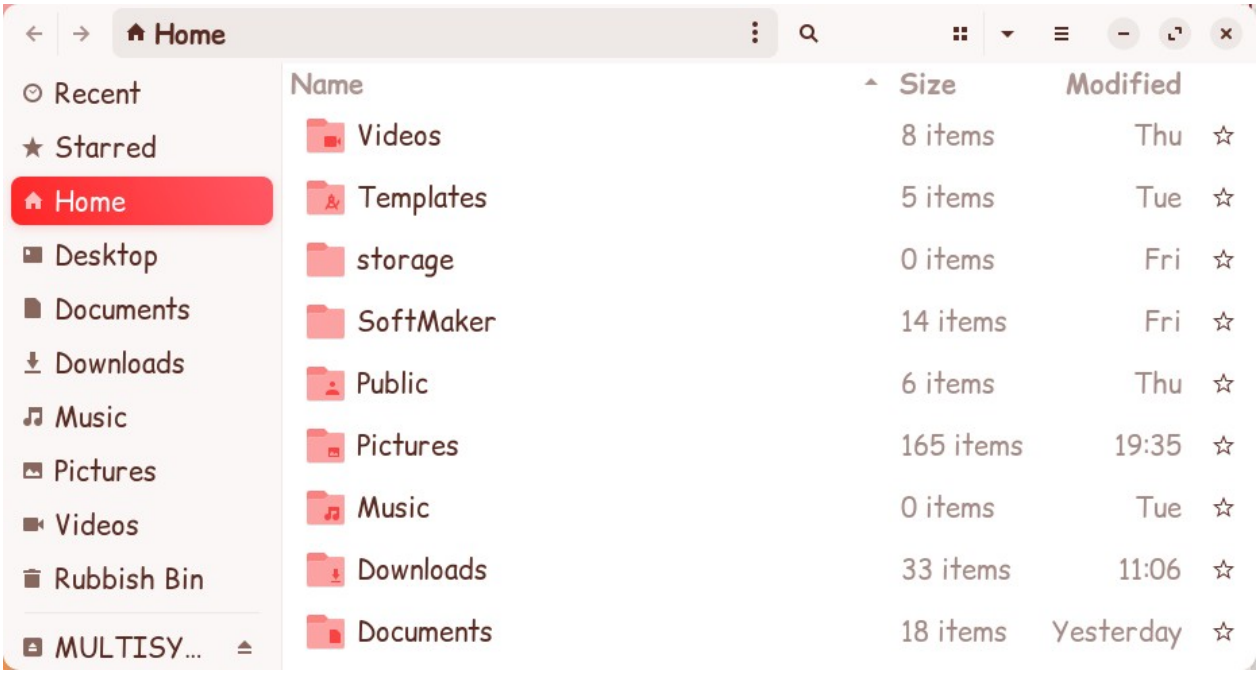
Green:



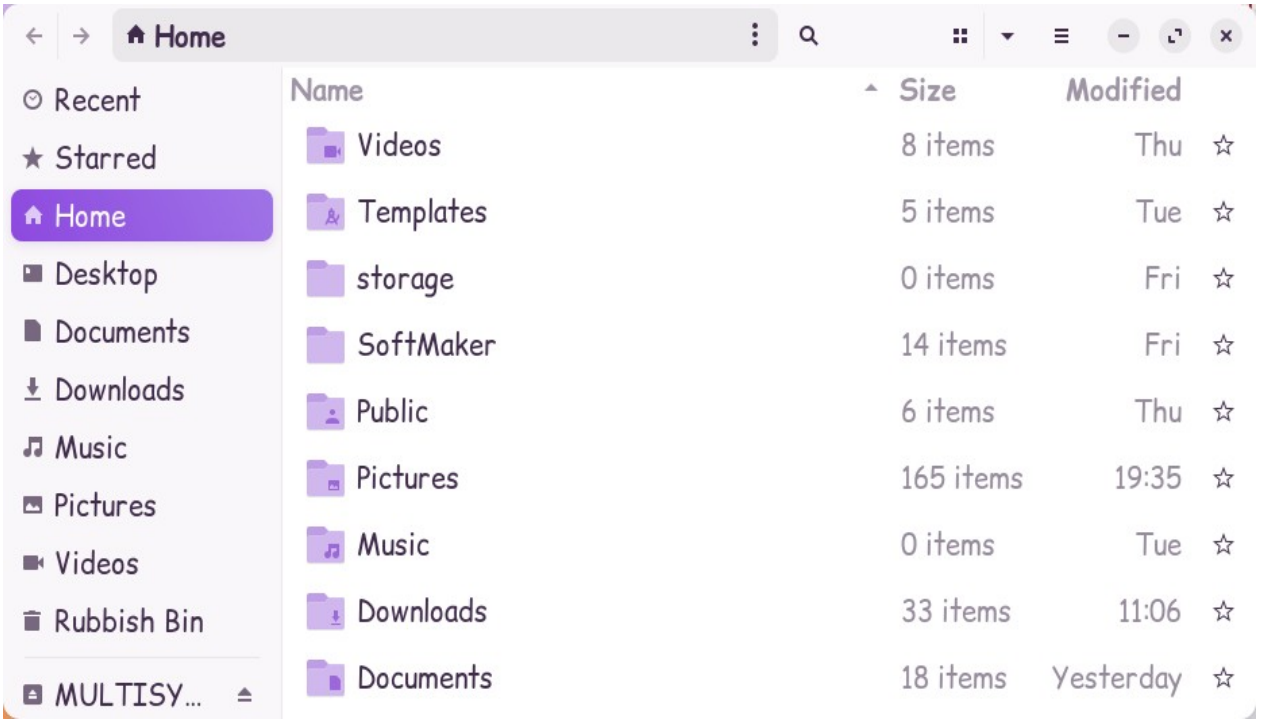
Orange:


Home
Recent
Starred
Home
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Music
Pictures
Videos
Rubbish Bin
MULTISY...
Name
Size
Modified
Videos 8 items Thu
Templates 5 items Tue
storage 0 items Fri
SoftMaker 14 items Fri
Public 6 items Thu
Pictures 165 items 19:35
Music 0 items Tue
Downloads 33 items 11:06
Documents 18 items Yesterday

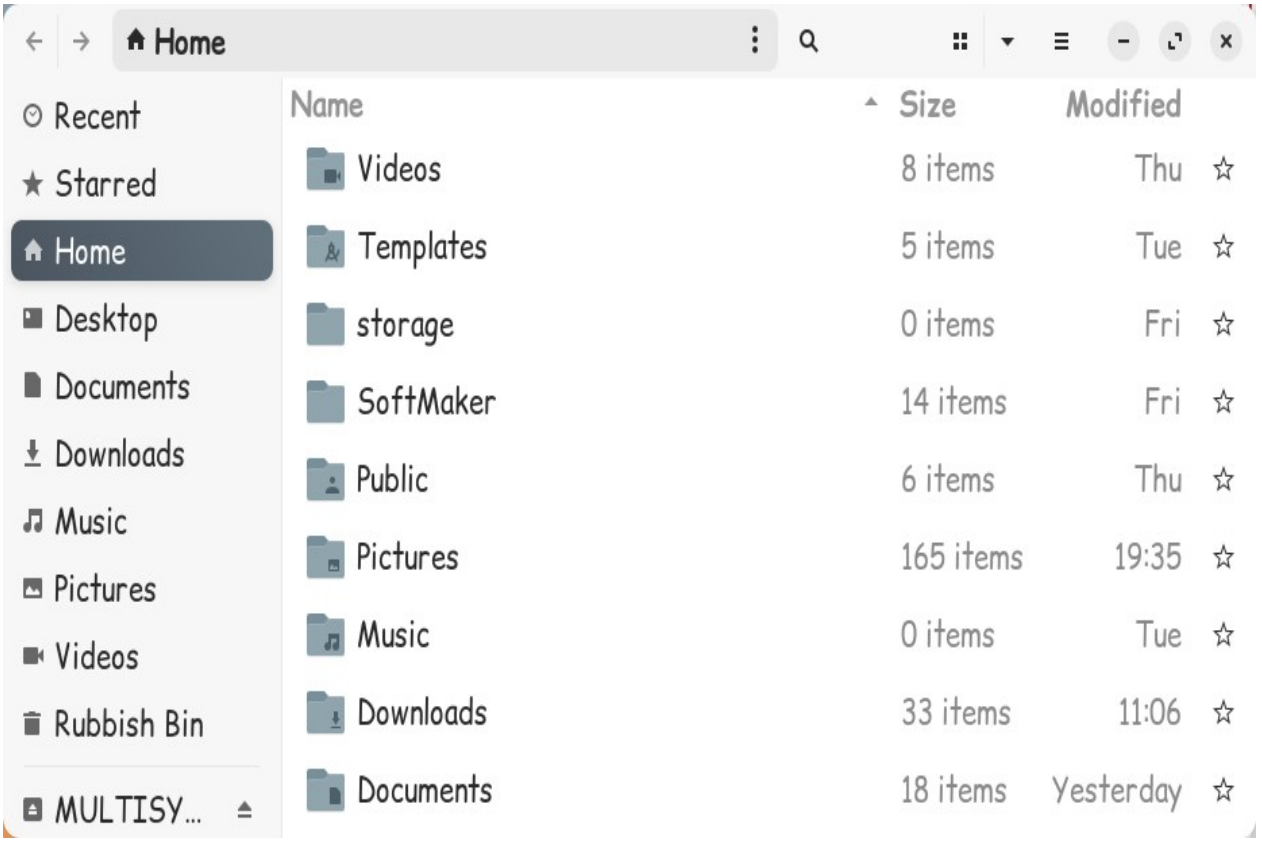
Red:


Home
Recent
Starred
Home
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Music
Pictures
Videos
Rubbish Bin
MULTISY...
Name
Size
Modified
Videos 8 items Thu
Templates 5 items Tue
storage 0 items Fri
SoftMaker 14 items Fri
Public 6 items Thu
Pictures 165 items 19:35
Music 0 items Tue
Downloads 33 items 11:06
Documents 18 items Yesterday

Purple:


Home
Recent
Starred
Home
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Music
Pictures
Videos
Rubbish Bin
MULTISY...
Name
Size
Modified
Videos 8 items Thu
Templates 5 items Tue
storage 0 items Fri
SoftMaker 14 items Fri
Public 6 items Thu
Pictures 165 items 19:35
Music 0 items Tue
Downloads 33 items 11:06
Documents 18 items Yesterday

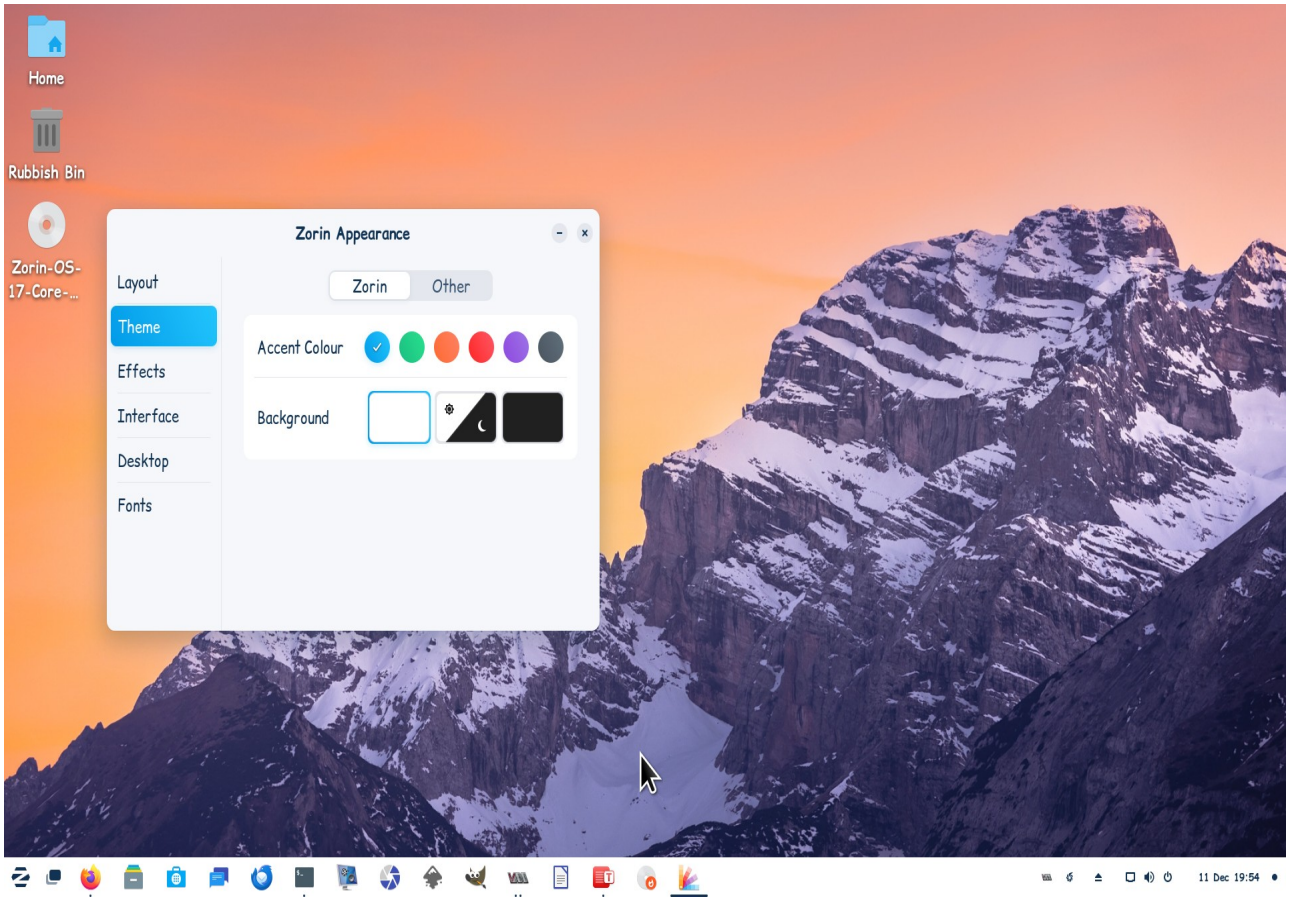
Grey:


Home
Recent
Starred
Home
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Music
Pictures
Videos
Rubbish Bin
MULTISY...
Name
Size
Modified
Videos 8 items Thu
Templates 5 items Tue
storage 0 items Fri
SoftMaker 14 items Fri
Public 6 items Thu
Pictures 165 items 19:35
Music 0 items Tue
Downloads 33 items 11:06
Documents 18 items Yesterday

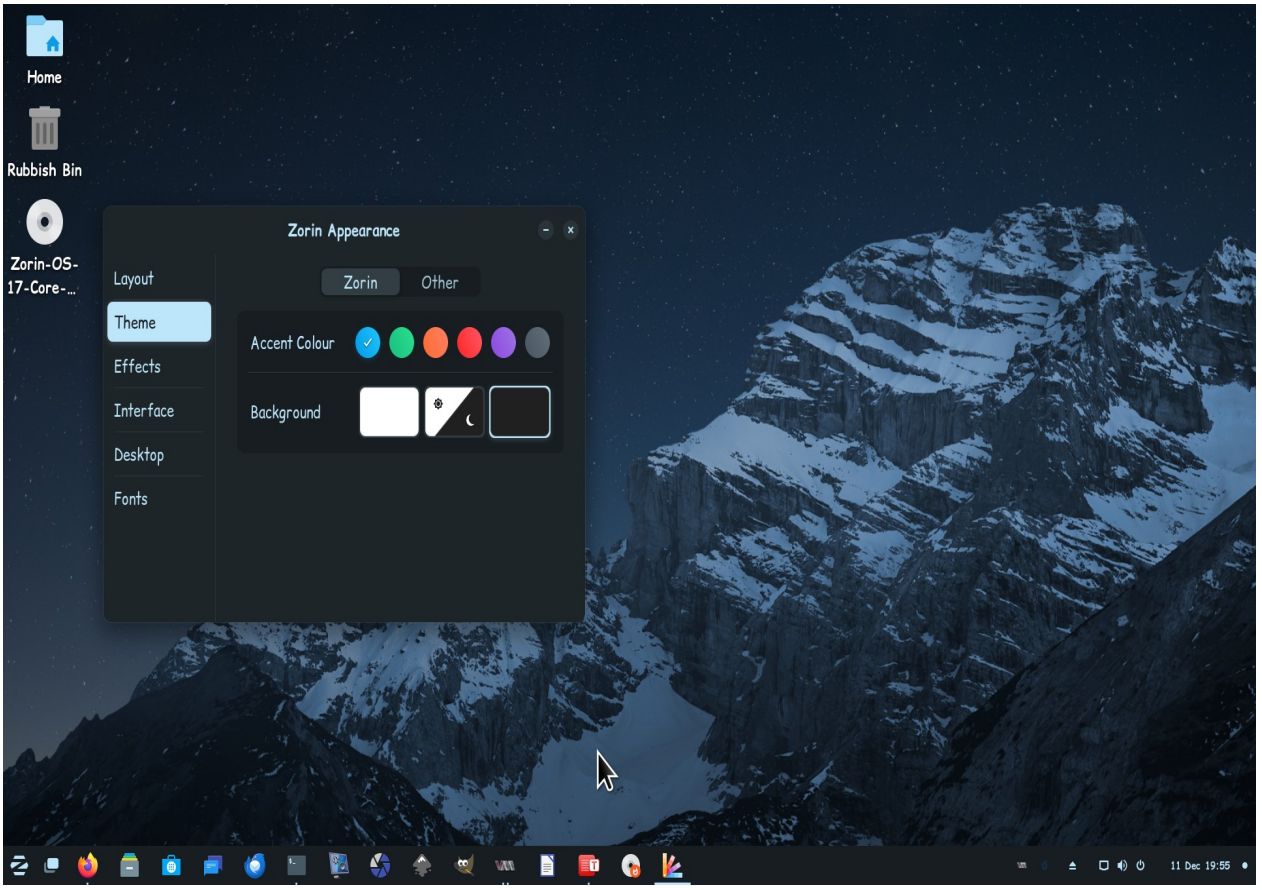
Background

This setting gives you the option to have a light Background, dark Background, or a combination, where it is light during the daytime and transforms to dark at night time. You can set this middle option, and a **Schedule** appears, which can be Manual where you enter the time when the desktop should be Light and when it should change to Dark. Alternatively you can use ‘Sunset to Sunrise’ setting, but I somehow feel it should say ‘Sunrise to Sunset’ - or Is it just me!

Light



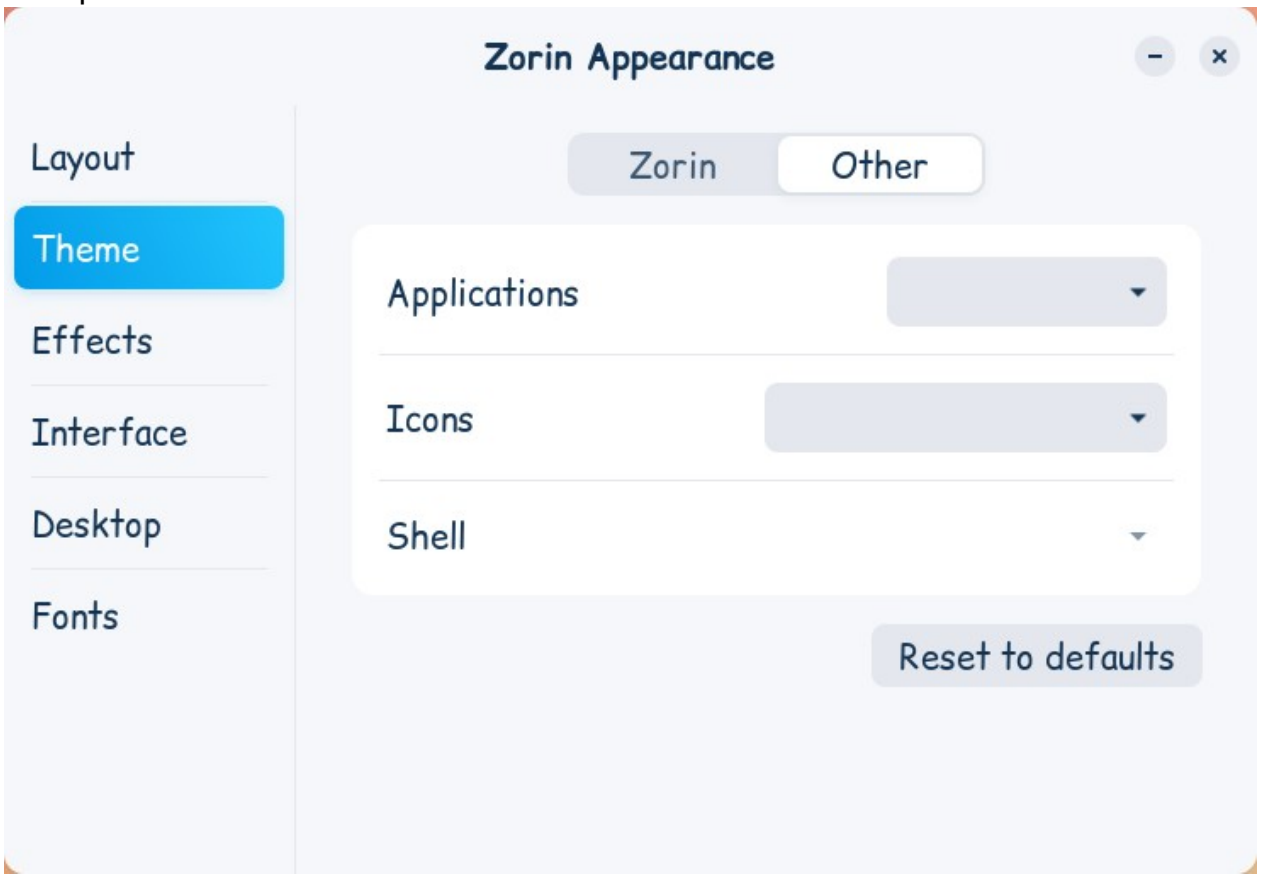
Dark


Home
Rubbish Bin
Zorin-OS-17-Core-...
Zorin Appearance
Layout
Theme
Effects
Interface
Desktop
Fonts
Zorin
Other
Accent Colour
Background
11 Dec 19:55

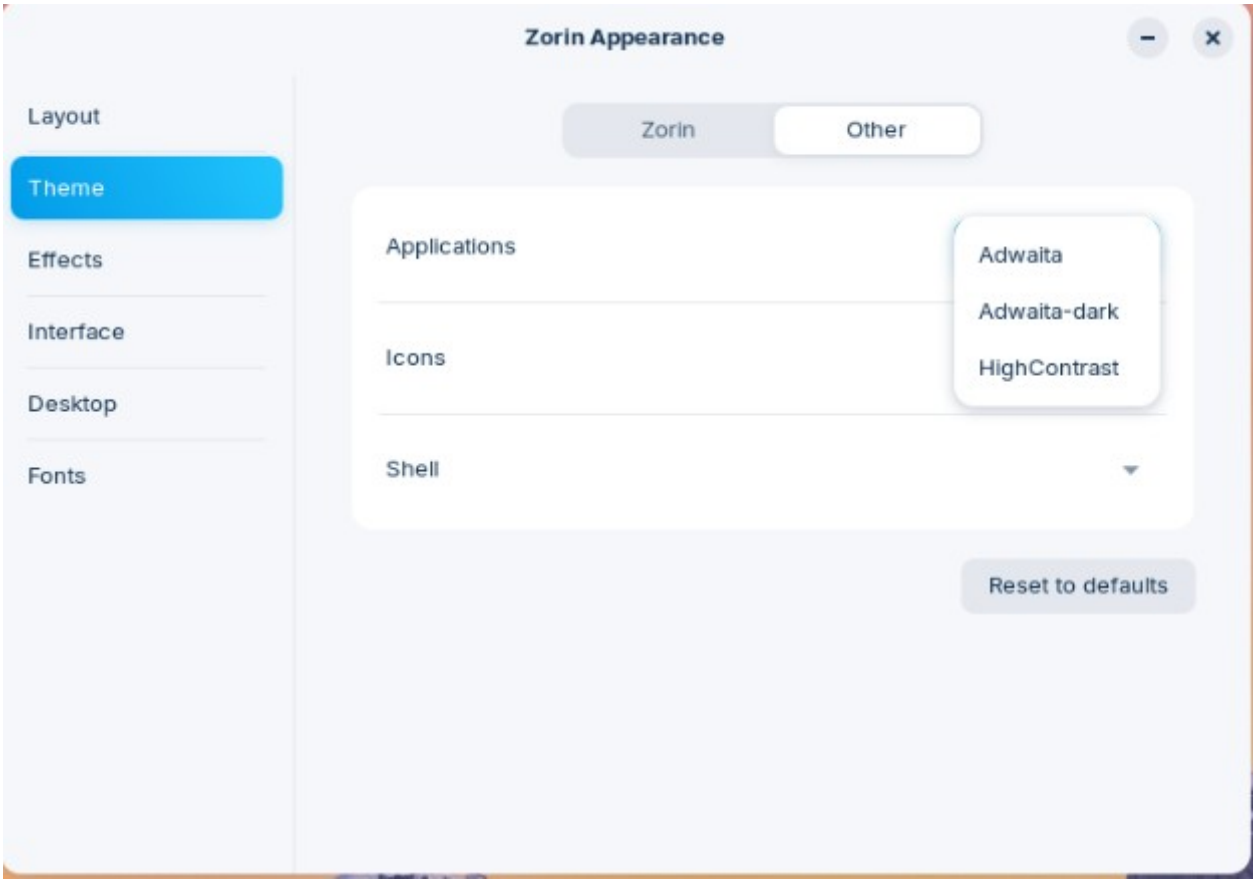
Other

This comprises of 3 blank fields, **Applications**, **Icons** and **Shell.**

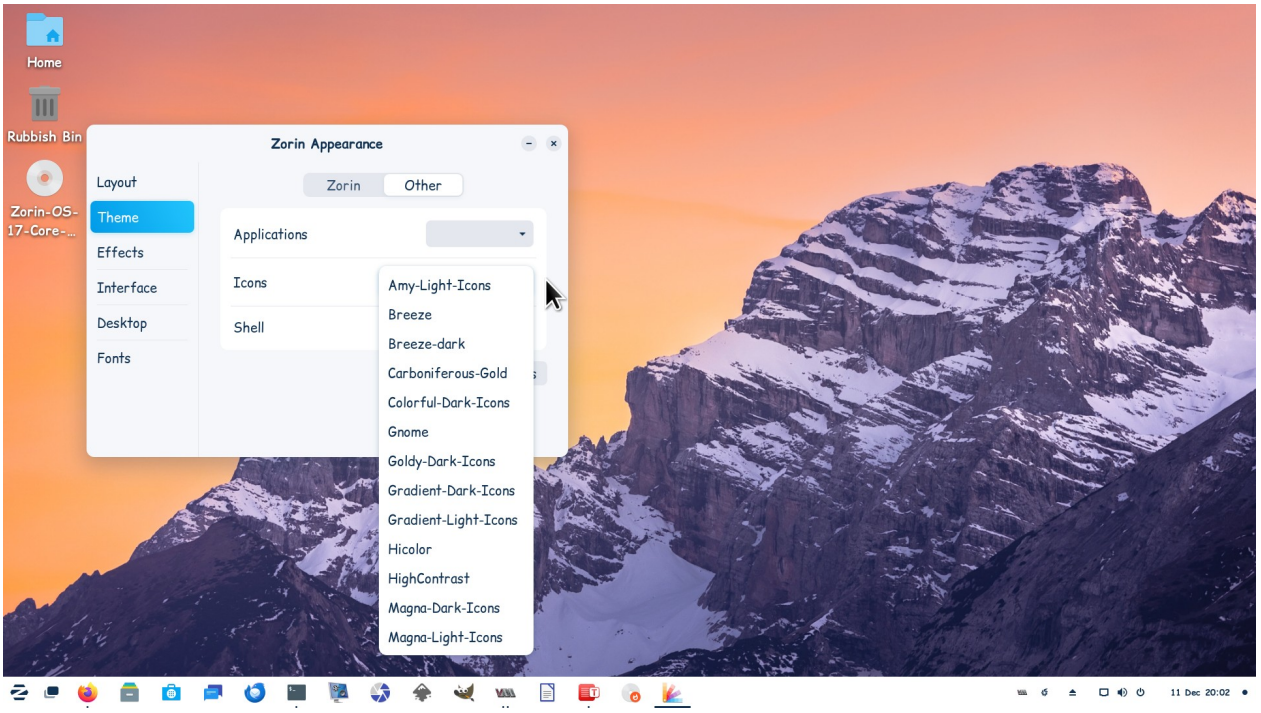
If things don’t go as you expected with the drop-down options available, the escape route is to click on **Reset to defaults**.



Applications drop-down list:

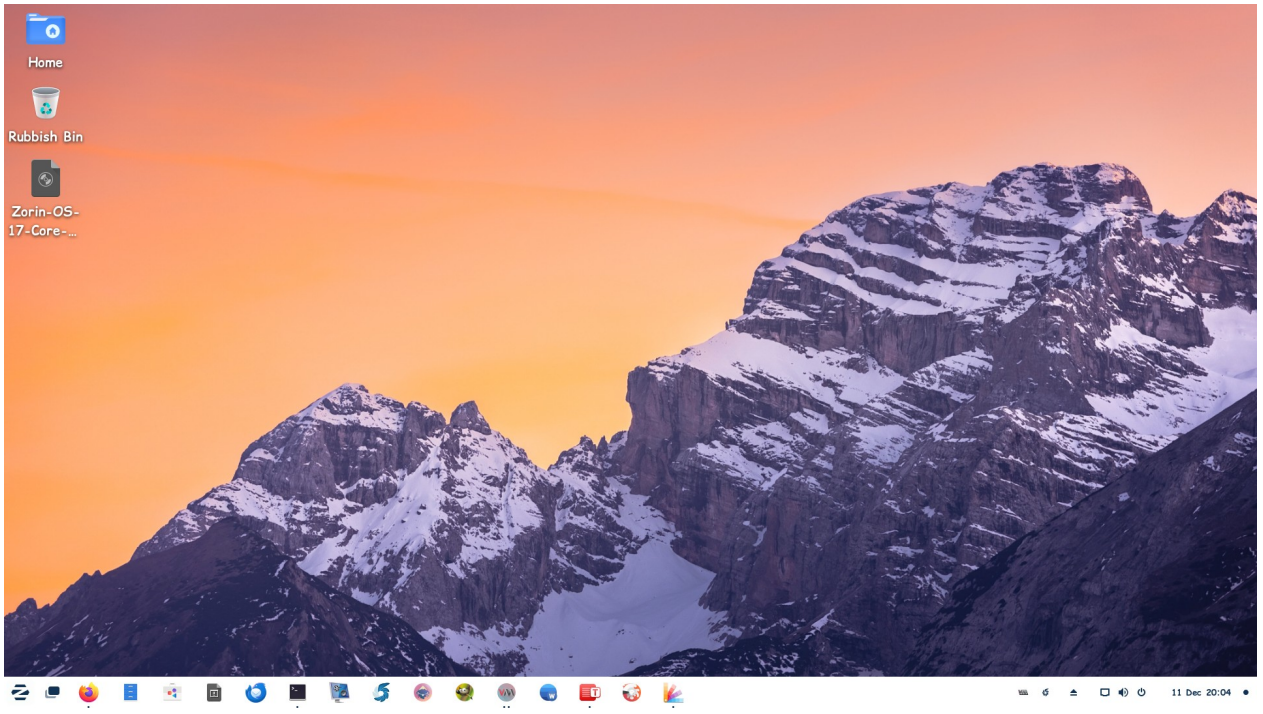


Icons drop-down list:

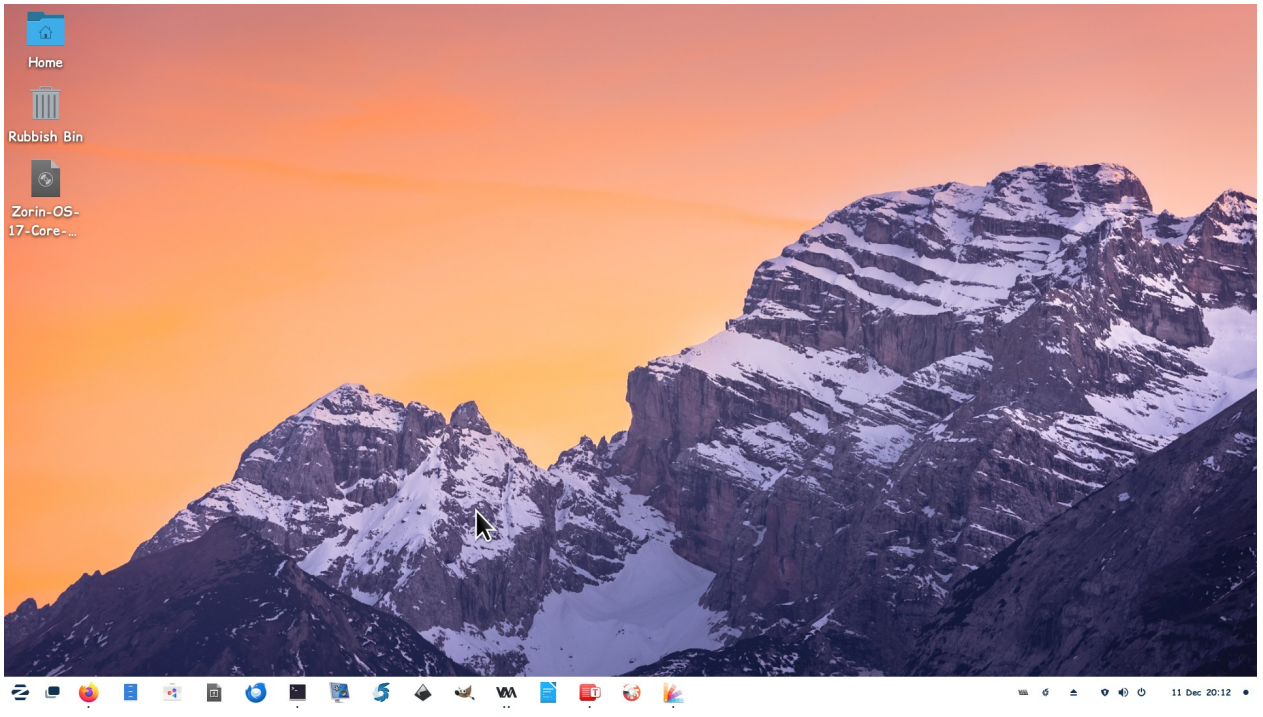


Please be aware I have added some additional icons whilst playing around with Plasma DE! (Amy-Light-Icons, Breeze, Breeze-Dark, Carboniferous-Gold, Colorful-Dark-Icons, Gnome, Goldy-Dark-Icons, Gradient-Dark-Icons, Gradient-Light-Icons, Magna-Dark-Icons, Magna-Light-Icons being the ones that are not present in the Beta).
Hicolor and HighContrast are the only options available by default.

Amy-Light-Icons:

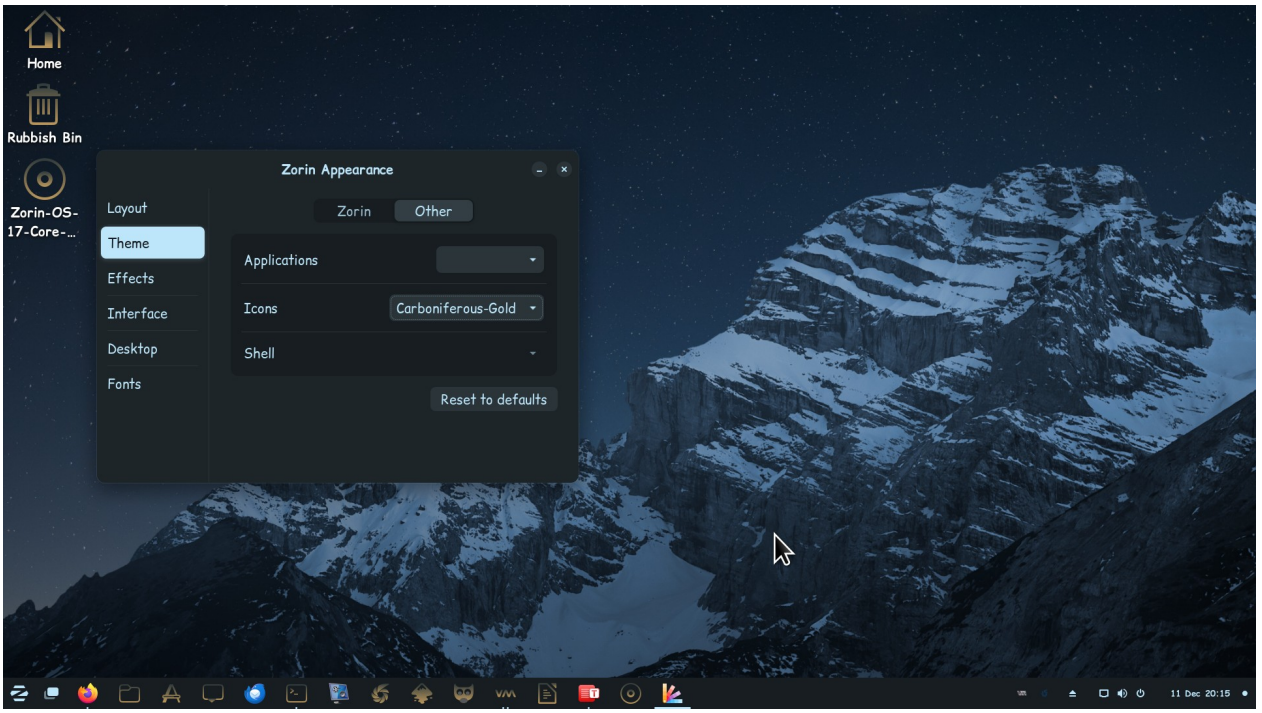


Breeze:

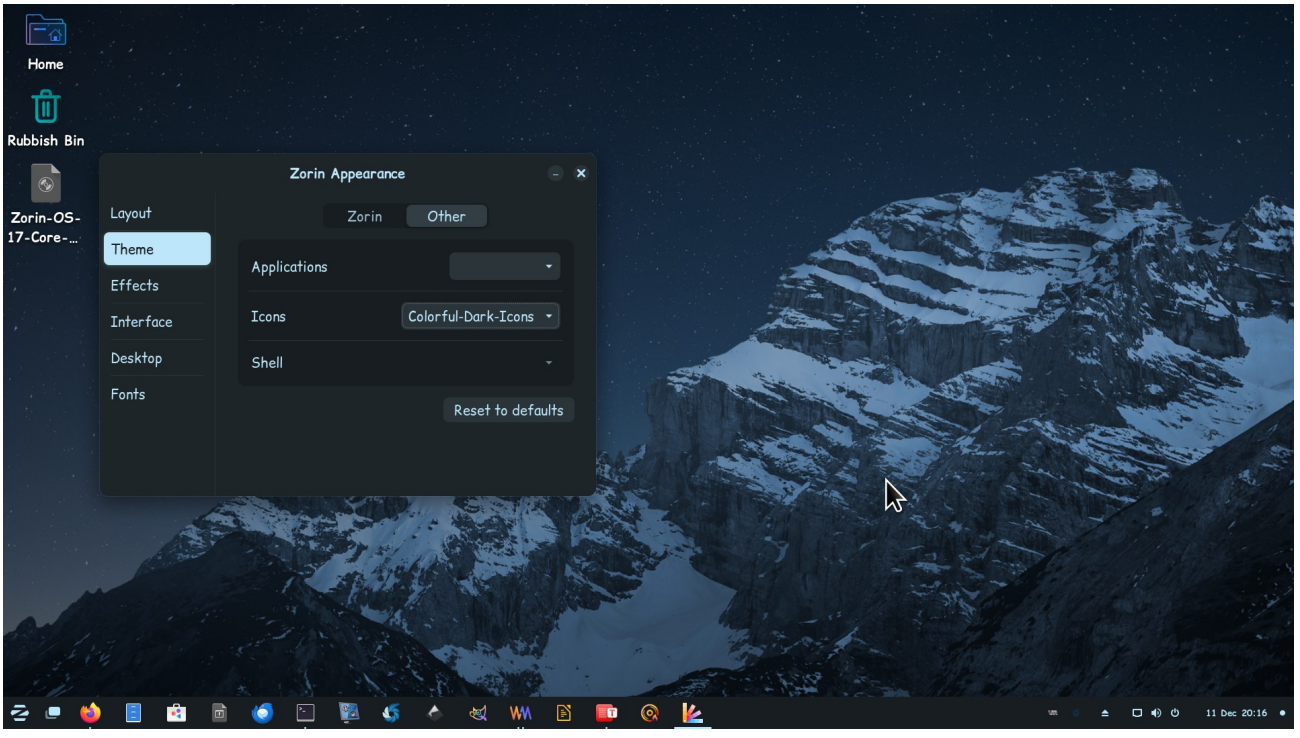


Breeze-dark (Not bothered to do a screenshot, the only change it made was the icon for virt-manager and changed it from black … to white!)

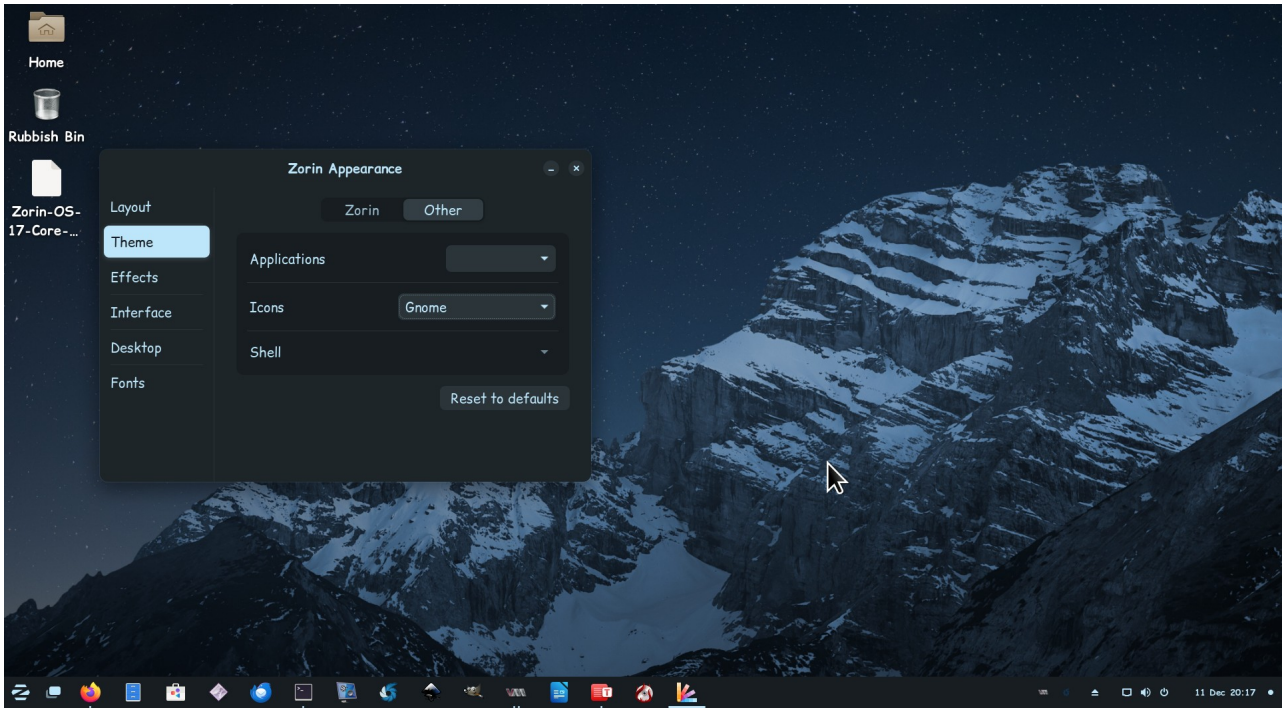
Carboniferous-Gold:



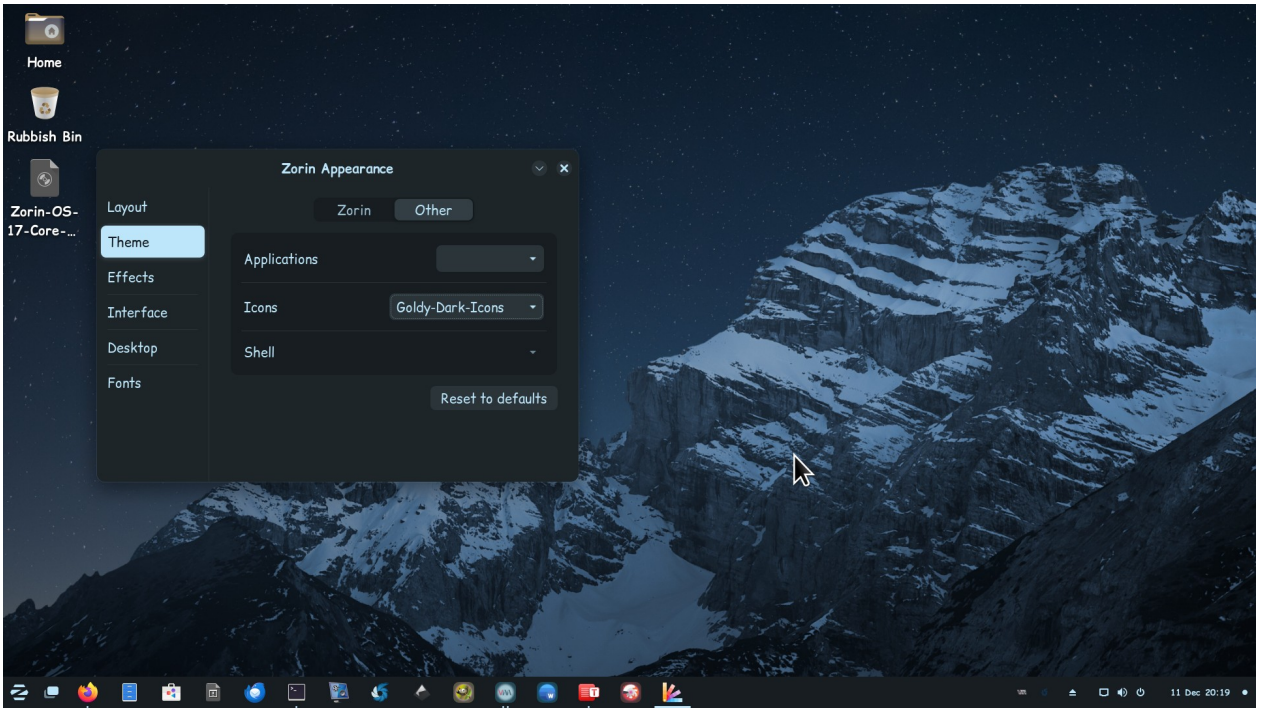
Colorful-Dark-Icons:



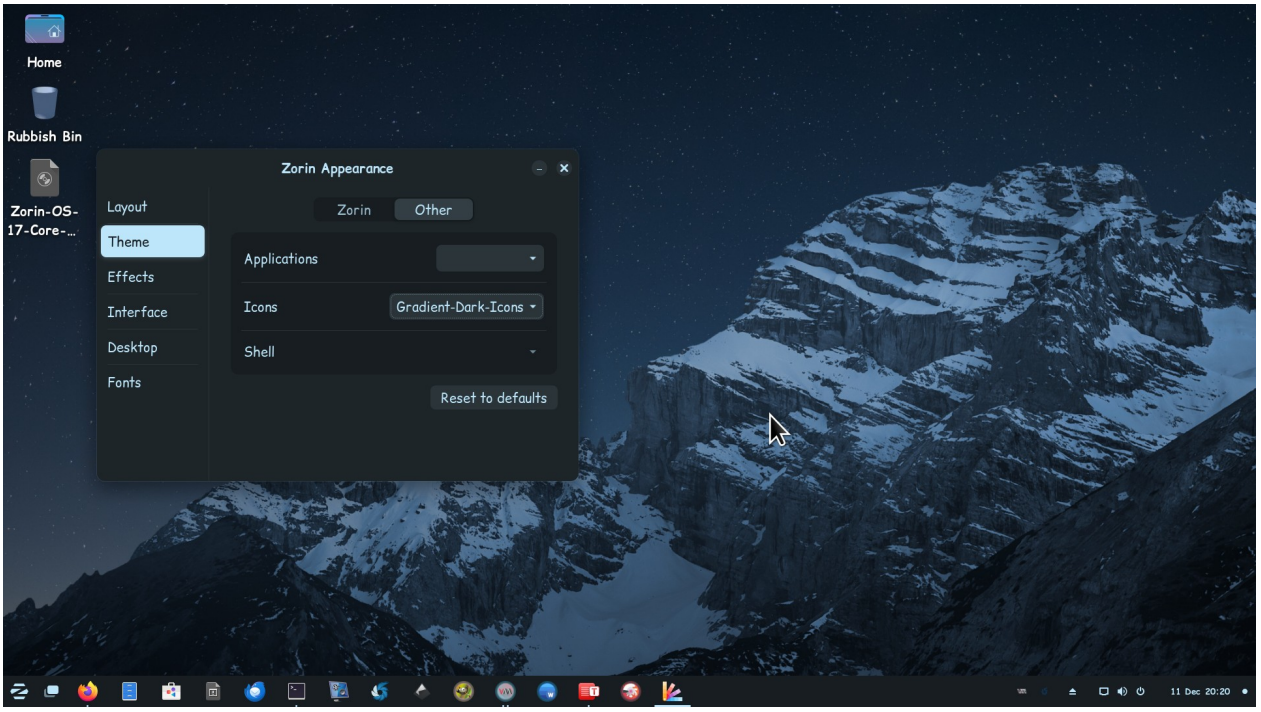
Gnome:



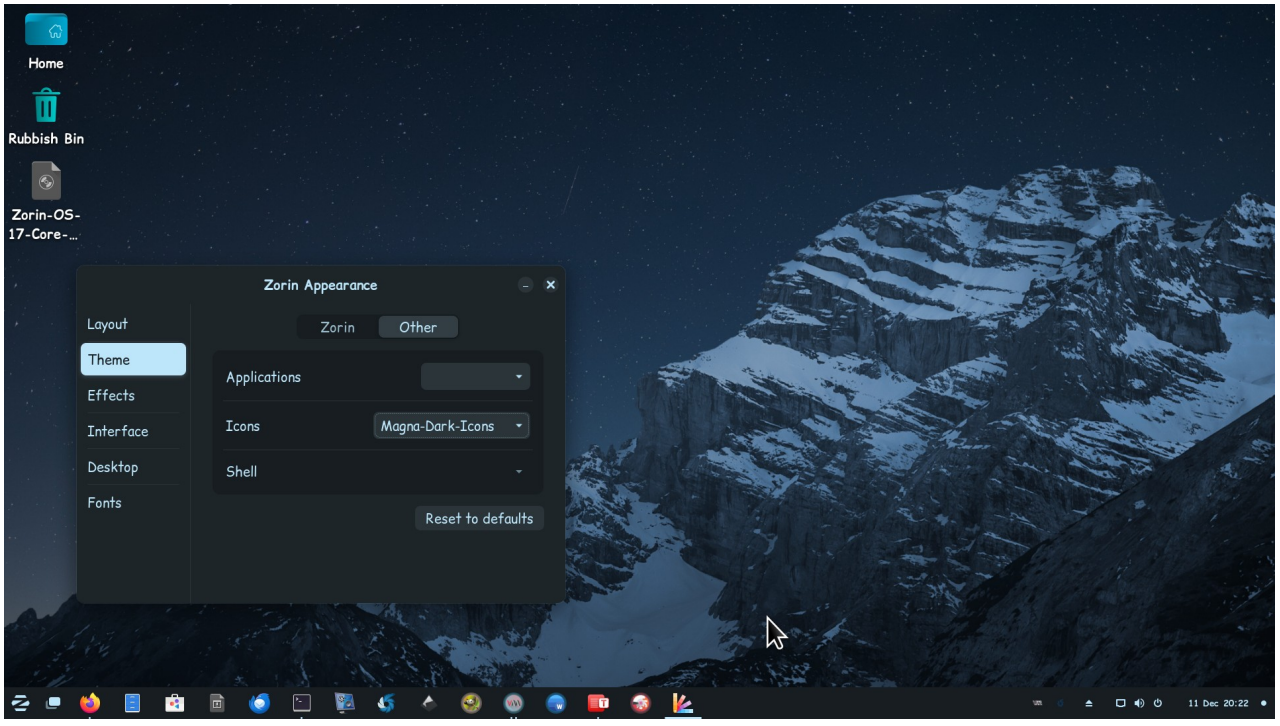
Goldy-Dark-Icons:



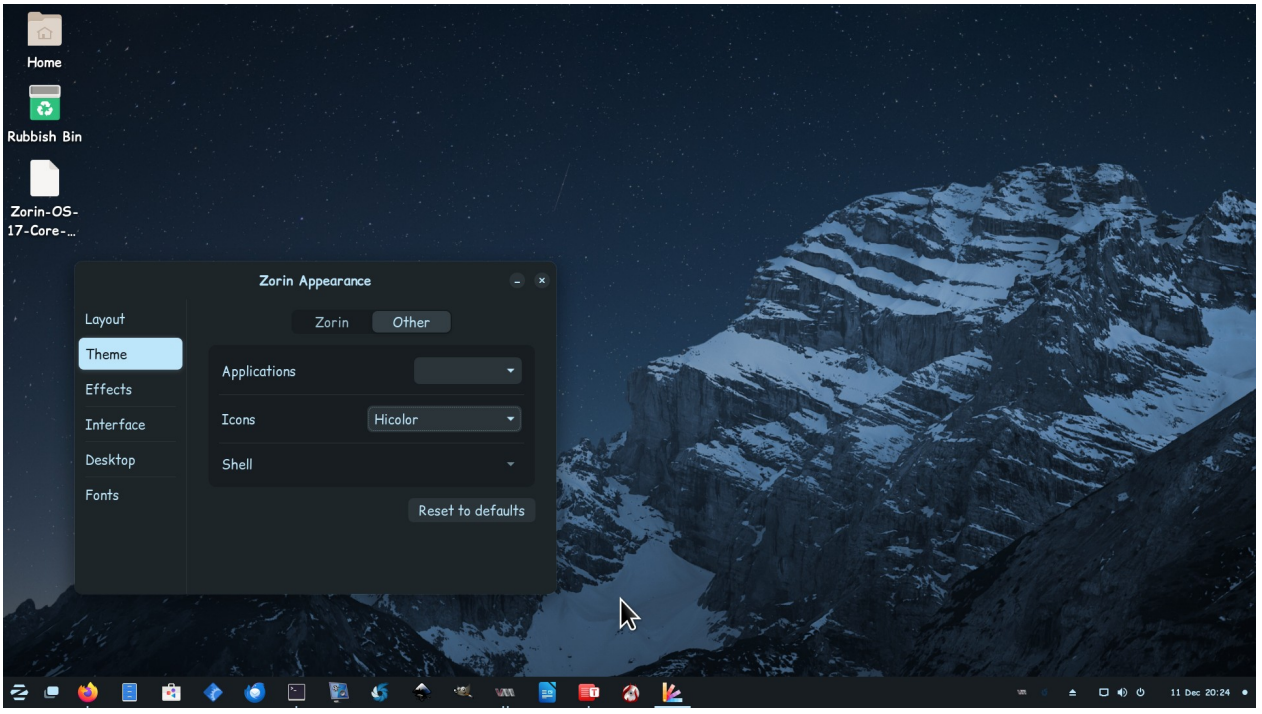
Gradient-Dark-Icons: (Gradient-Light-Icons not much different so no screenshot.)



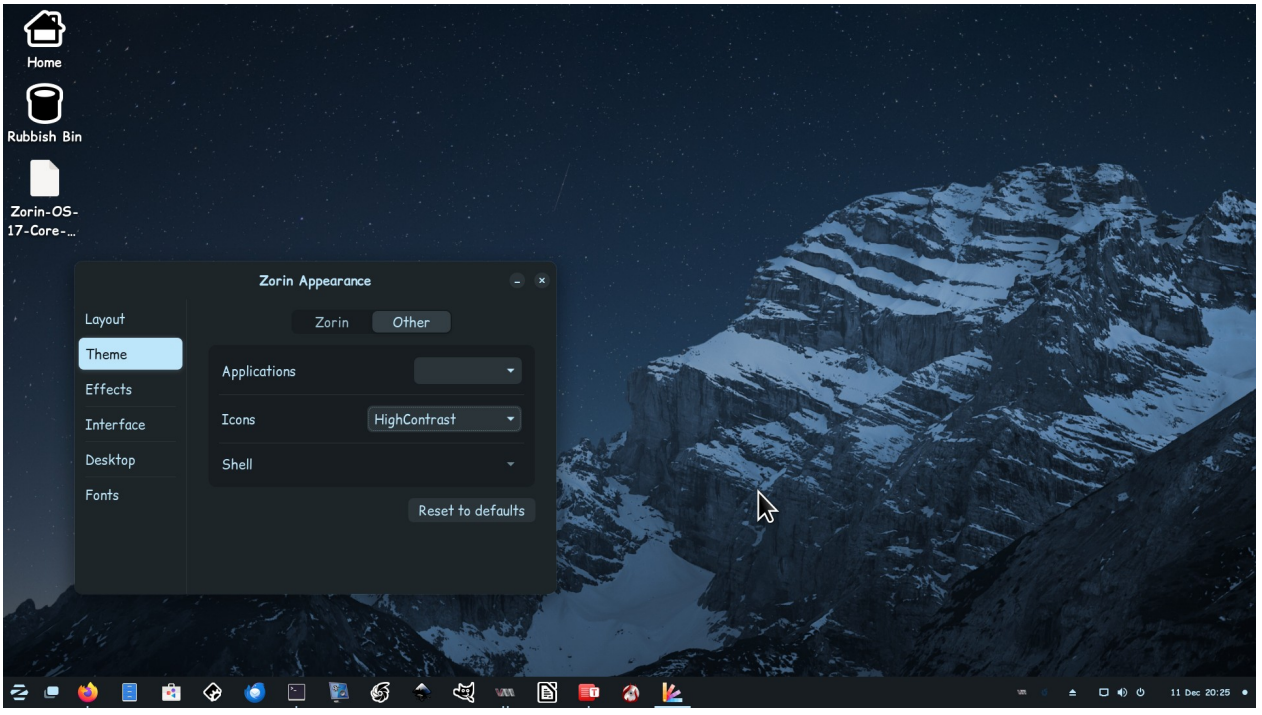
Magna-Dark-Icons: (Magna-Light-Icons - not much different so no screenshot.)



Hicolor:



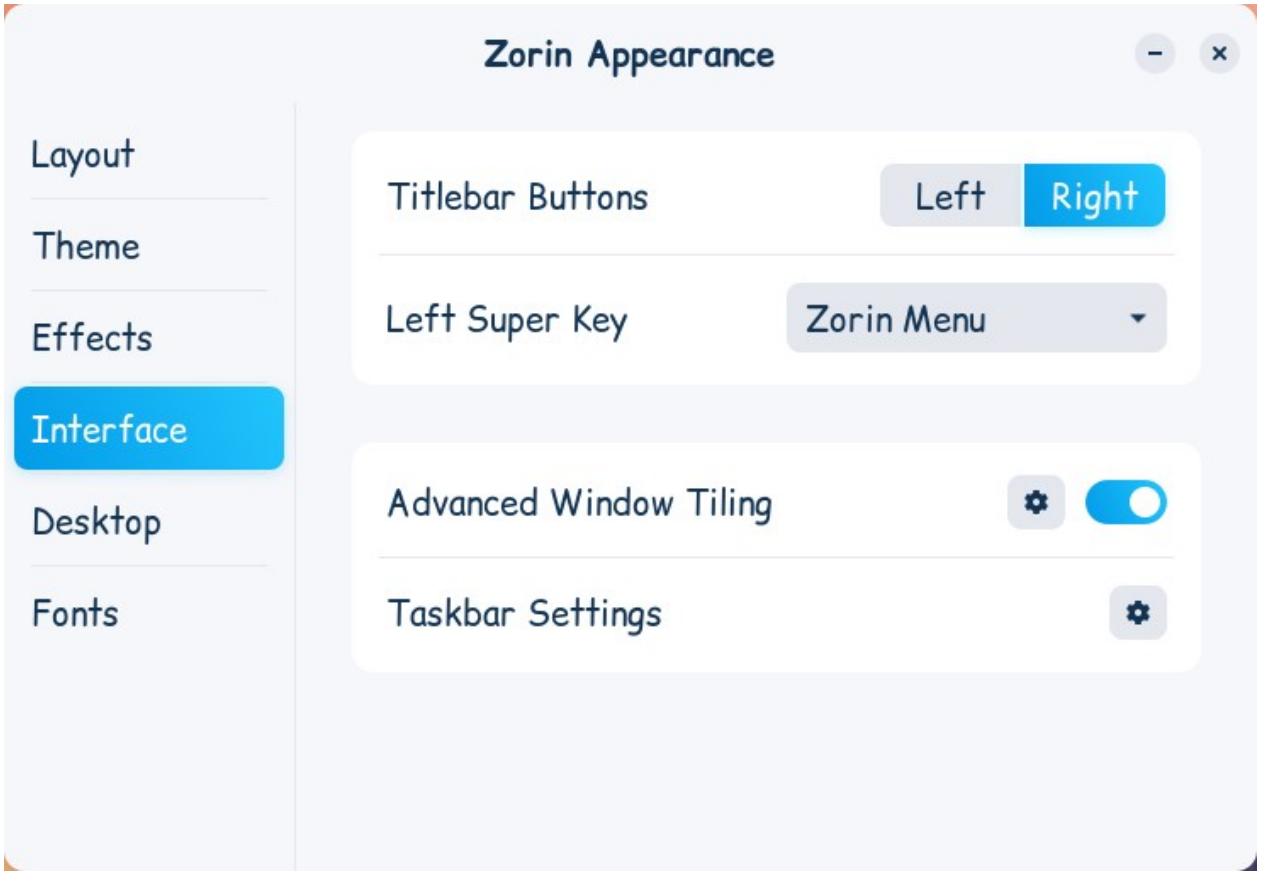
HighContrast:



Effects - see video I created here:

https://vimeo.com/893473421?share=copy

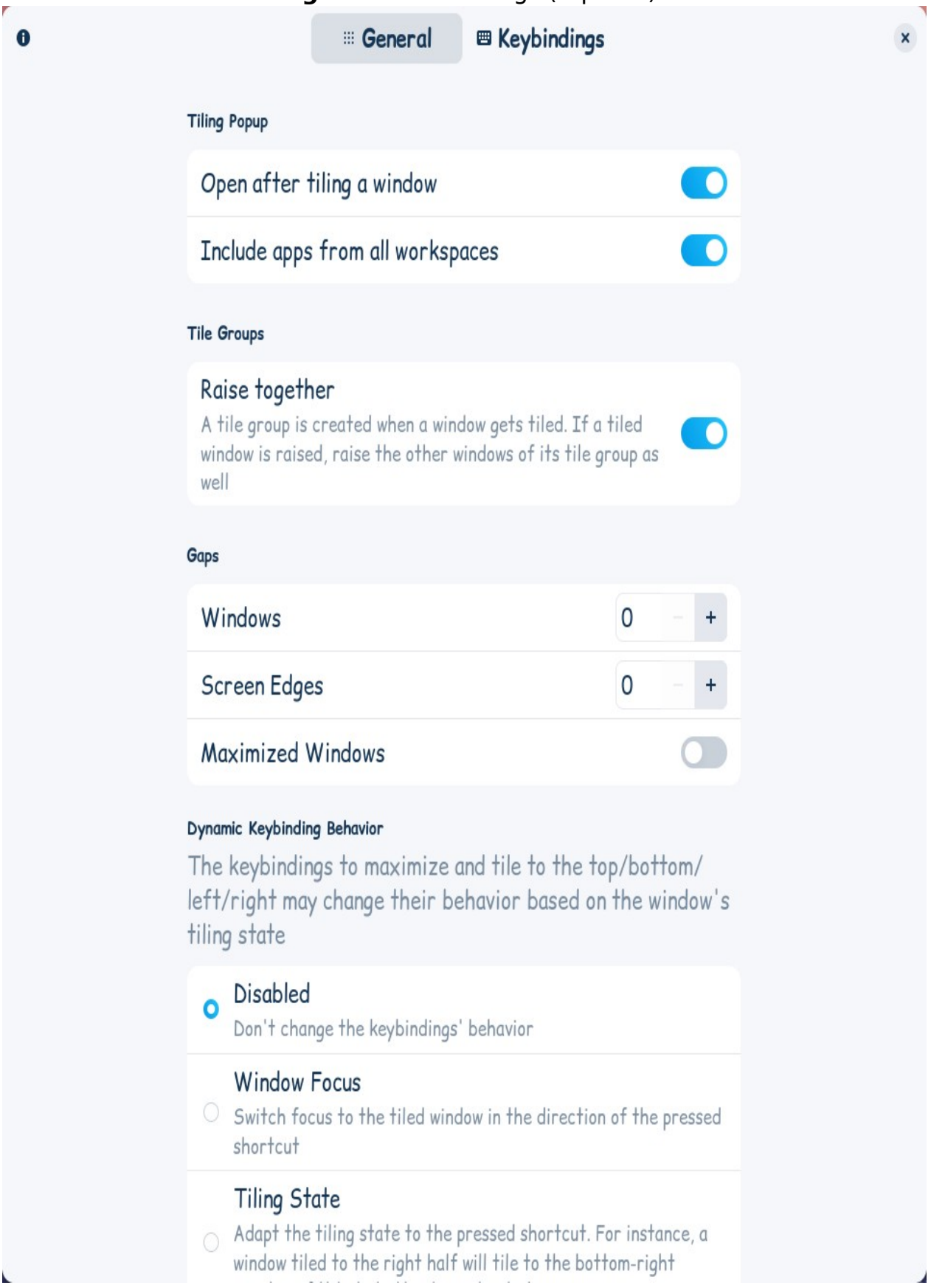
Interface



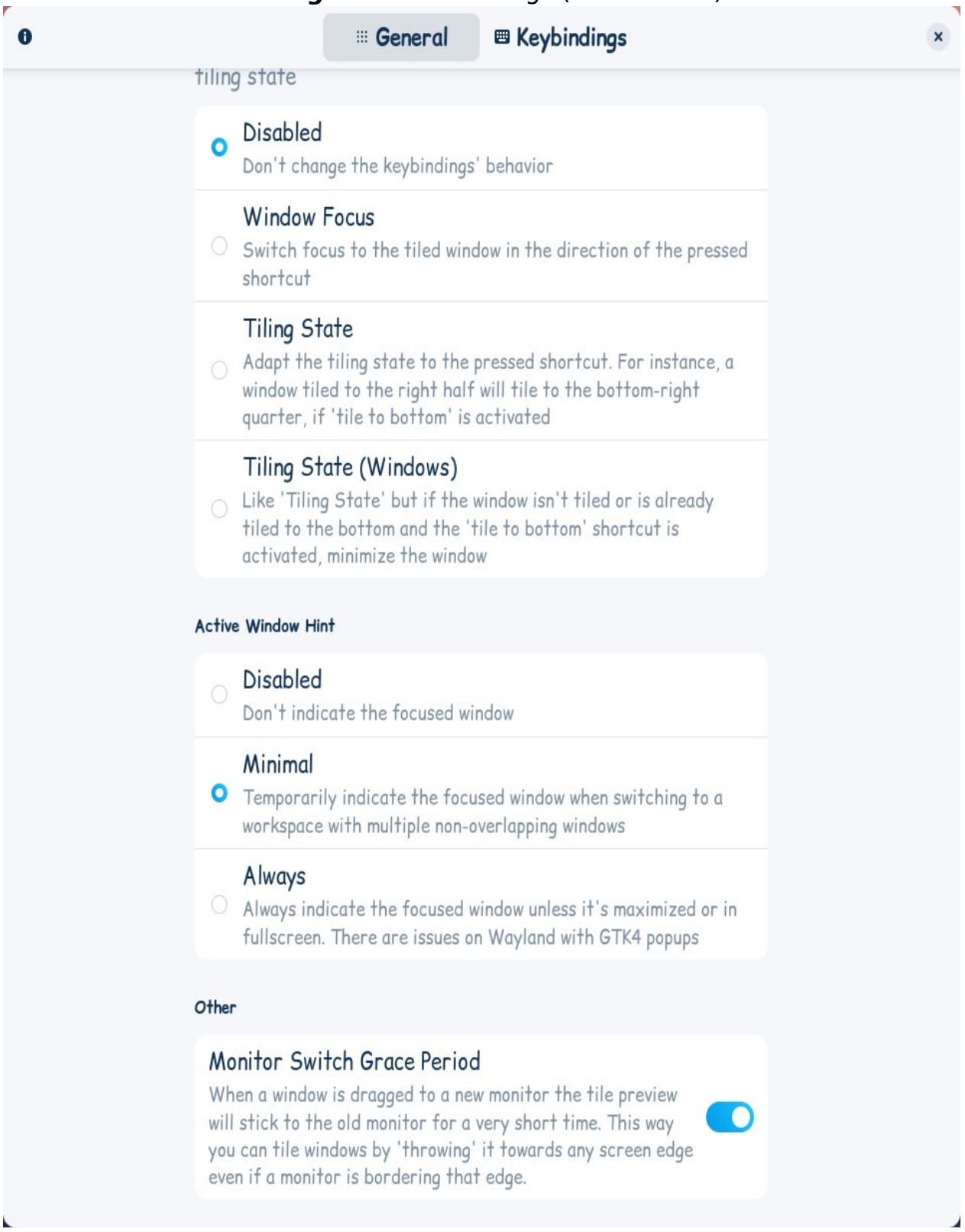
This is where you can decide on where the Titlebar Buttons are placed (minimise, maximise, close), what to designate the Left Super Key to do. The default is **Activities Overview**, but you can change this to **Zorin Menu** by using the drop down arrow to the right.

Advanced Window Tiling. Not quite sure how to describe what this does! Selecting the cog reveals the following interface (top-half) on the next page.

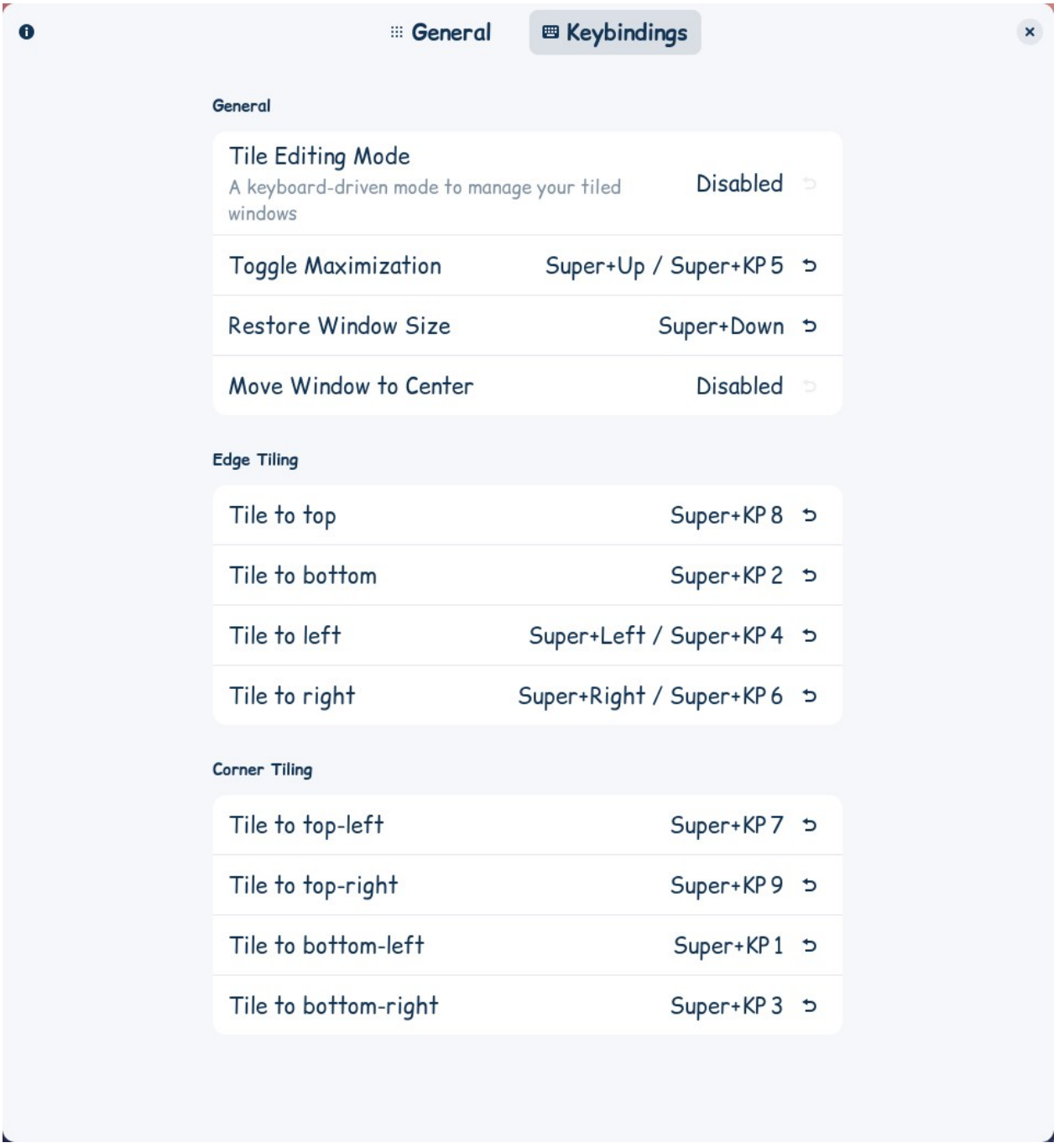
Advance Woindow Tiling - General Settings (top half)



Advance Window Tiling - General Settings (bottom-half)

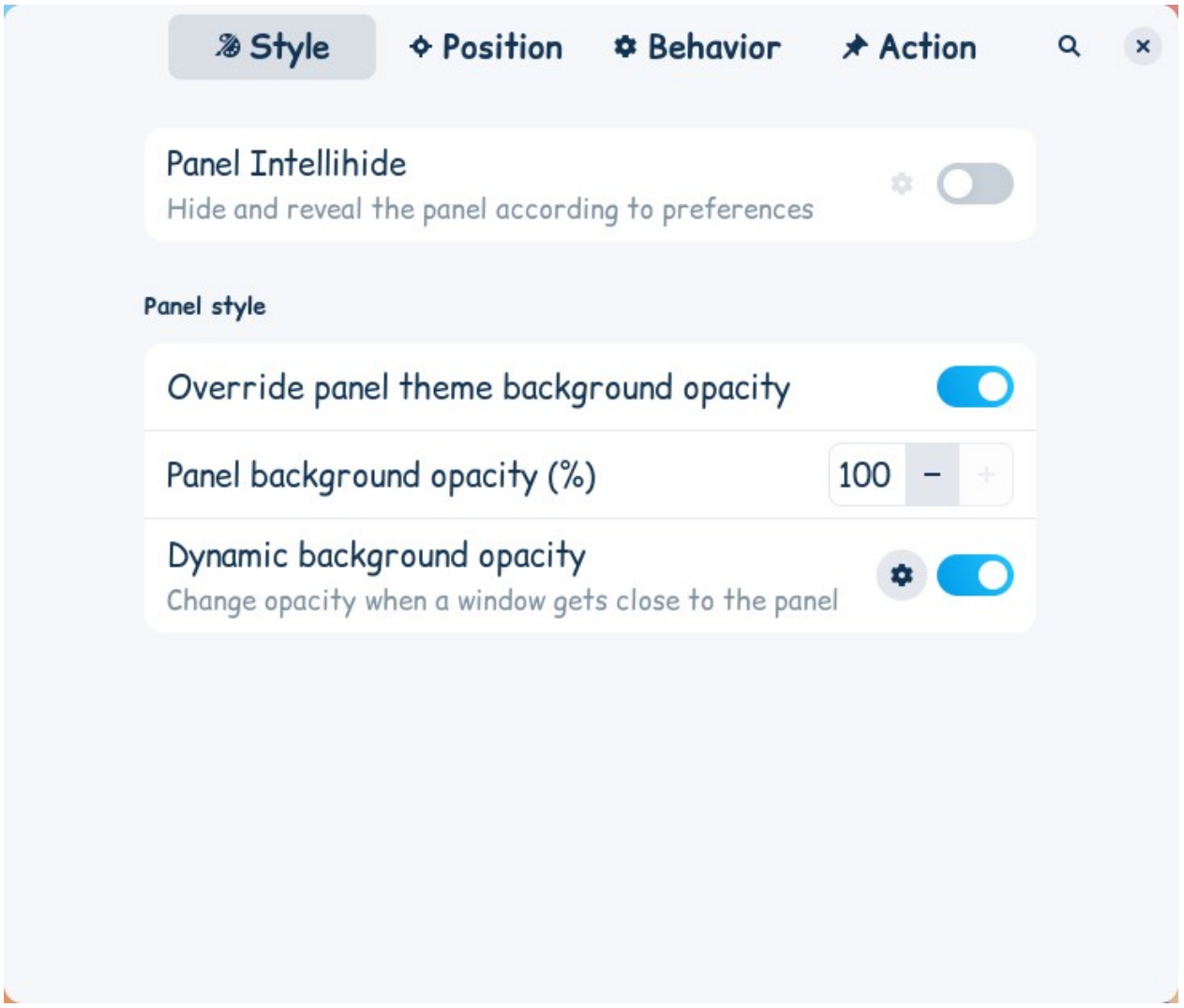


Advanced Window Tiling - Keybindings



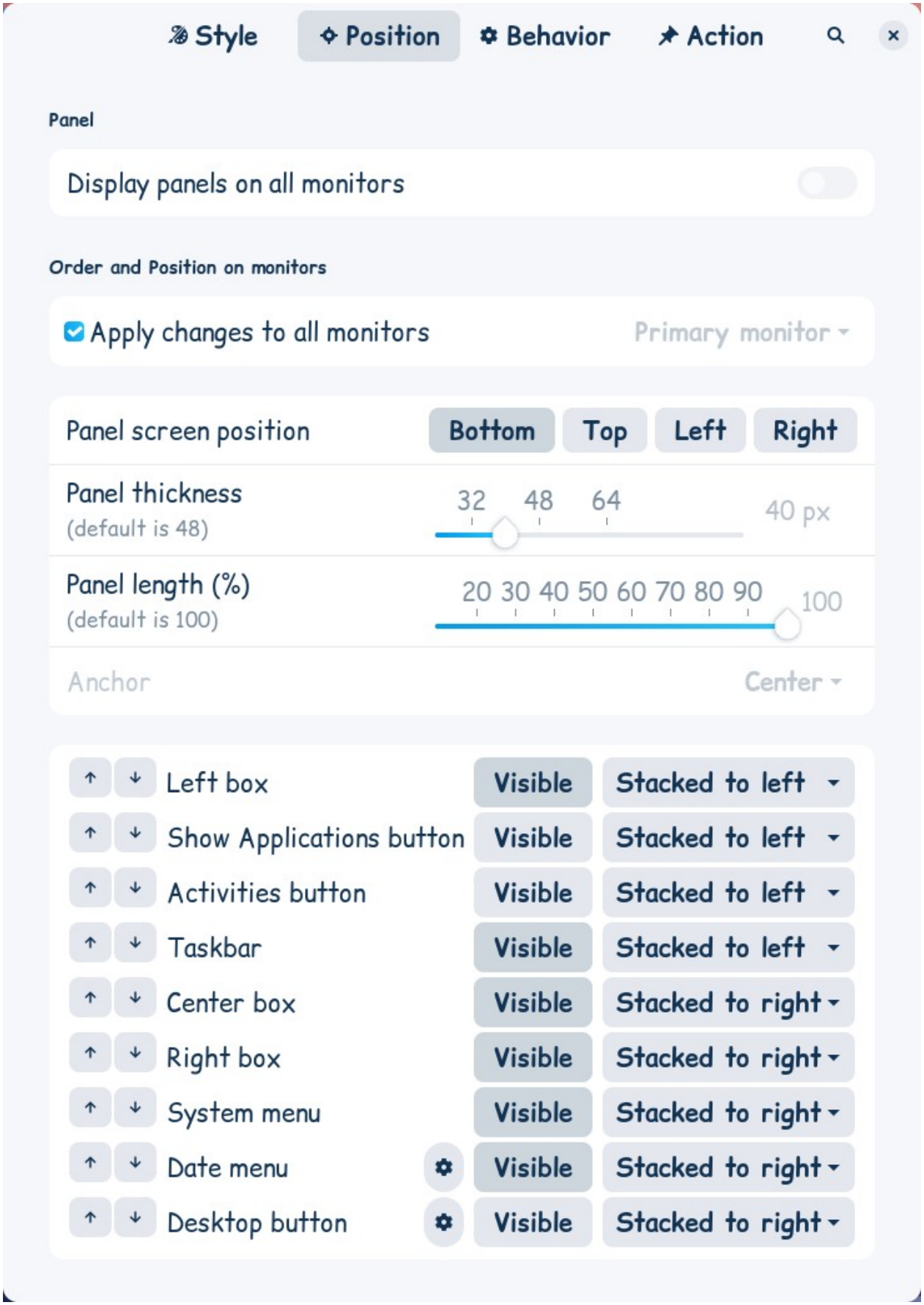
Taskbar Settings

Style



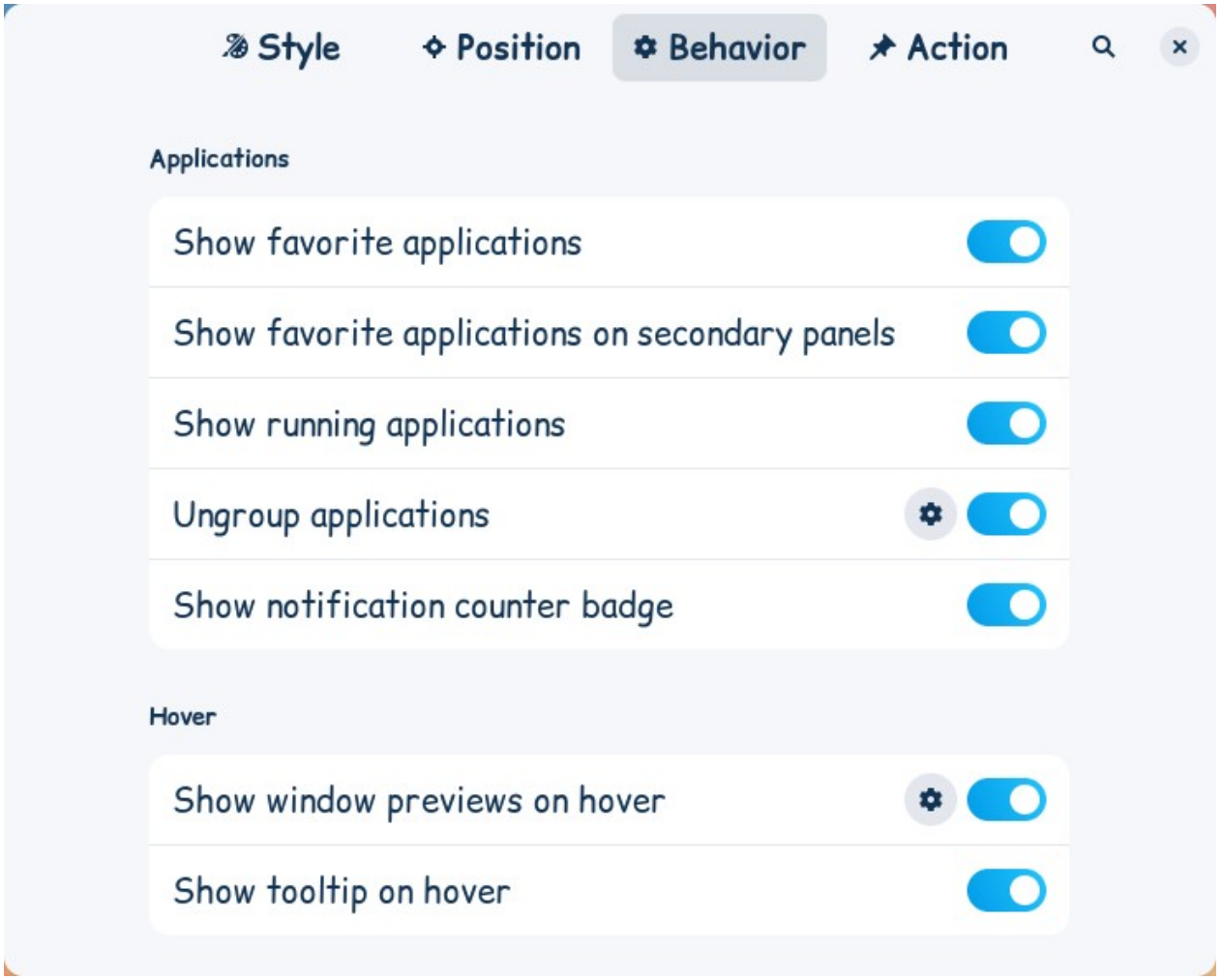
Taskbar Settings

Position



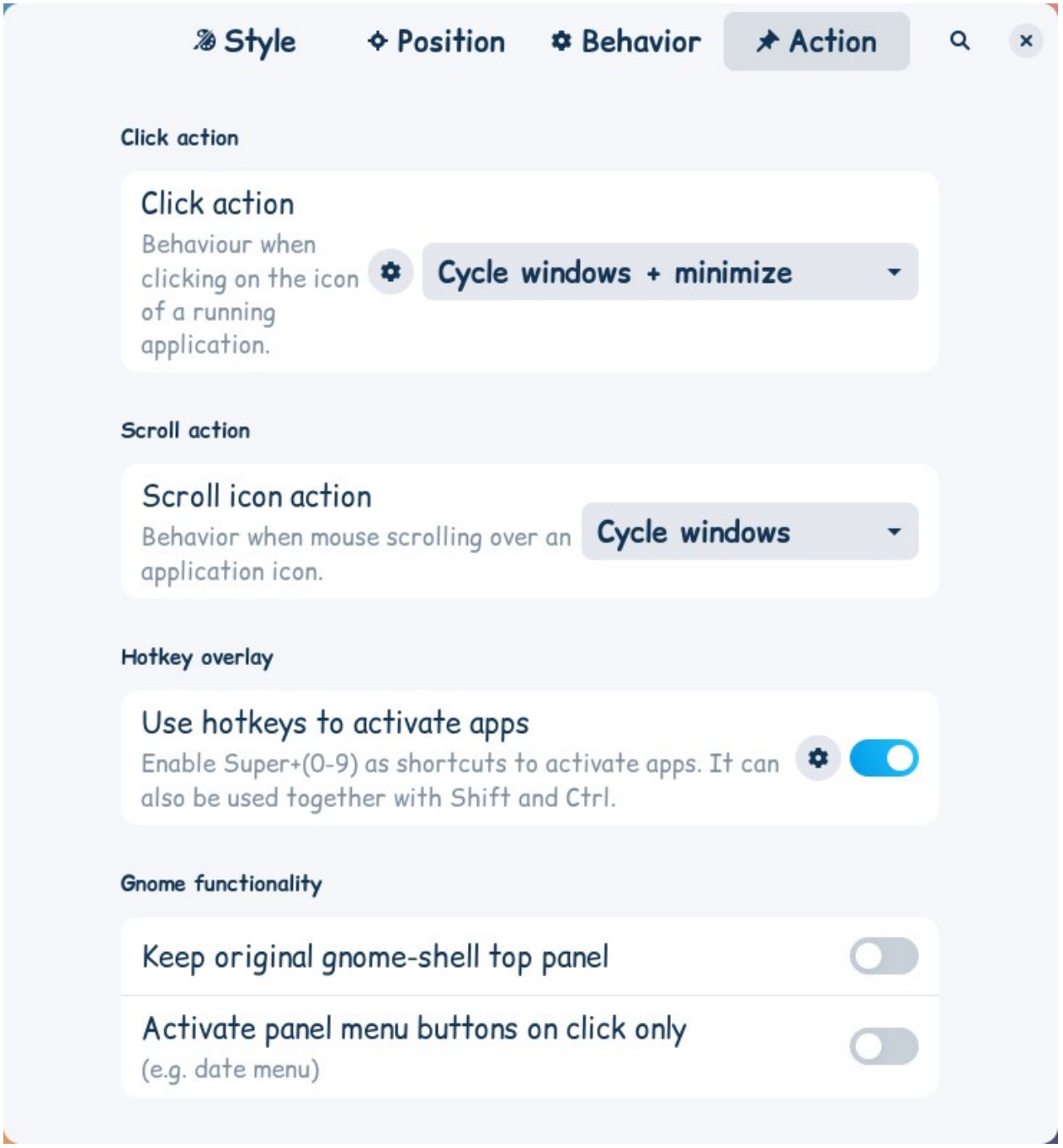
Taskbar Settings

Behavior



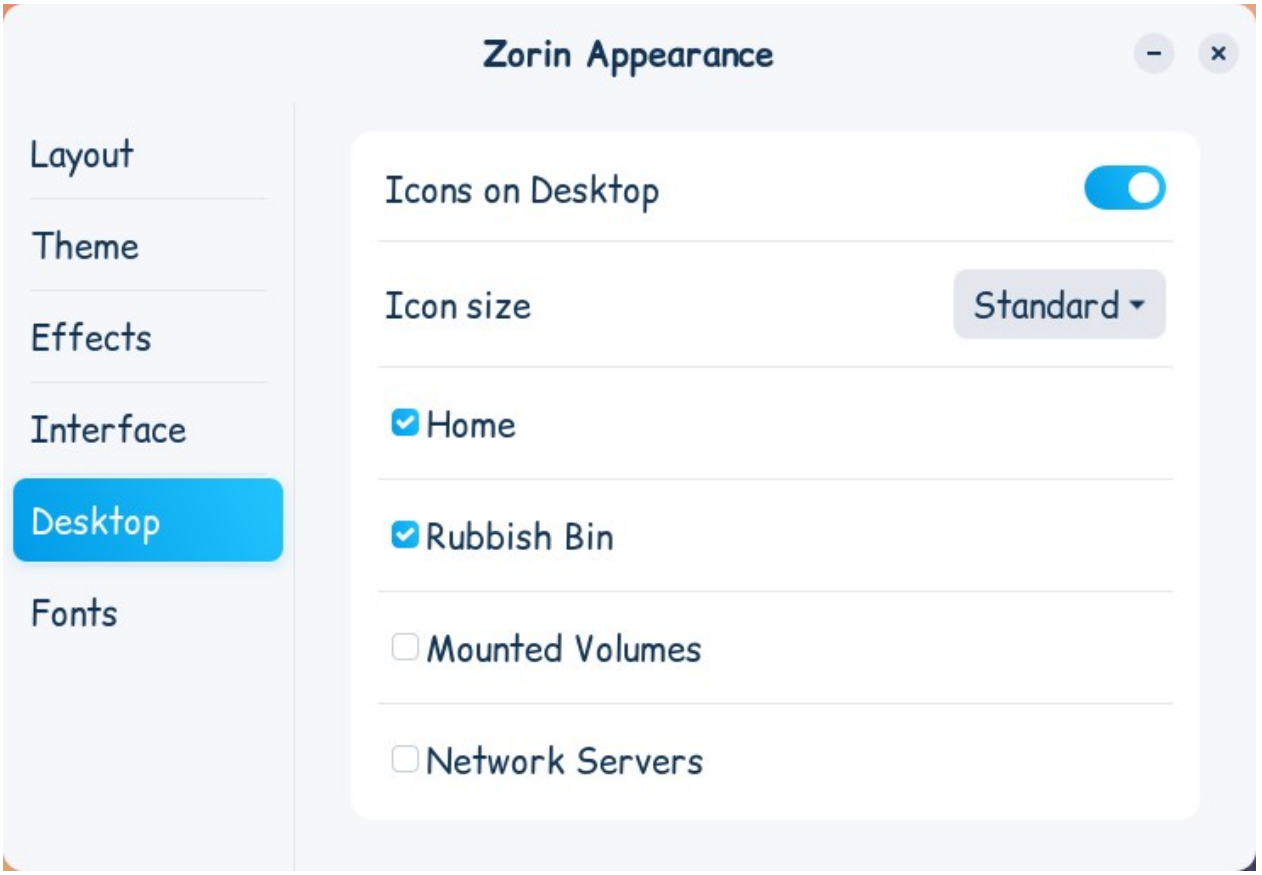
Taskbar Settings

Action



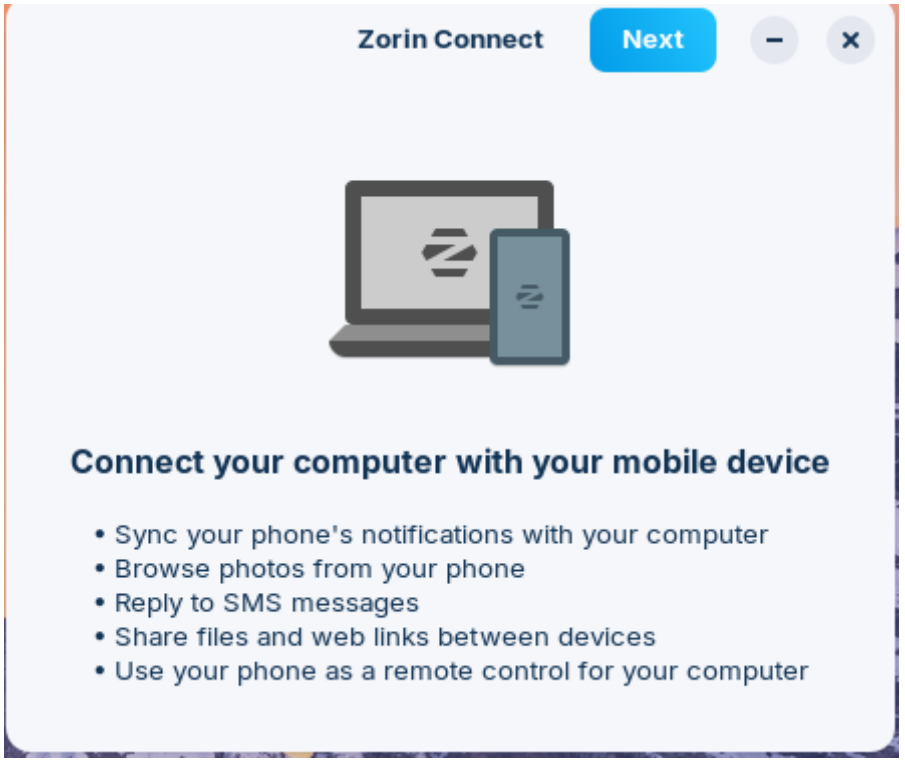
Desktop

This is where you can decide whether or not you wish to have **system icons** (Home, Rubbish Bin, Mounted Volumes, Network Servers) on the Desktop or not, and what size you would like them to be (Tiny, Small, Standard or Large).

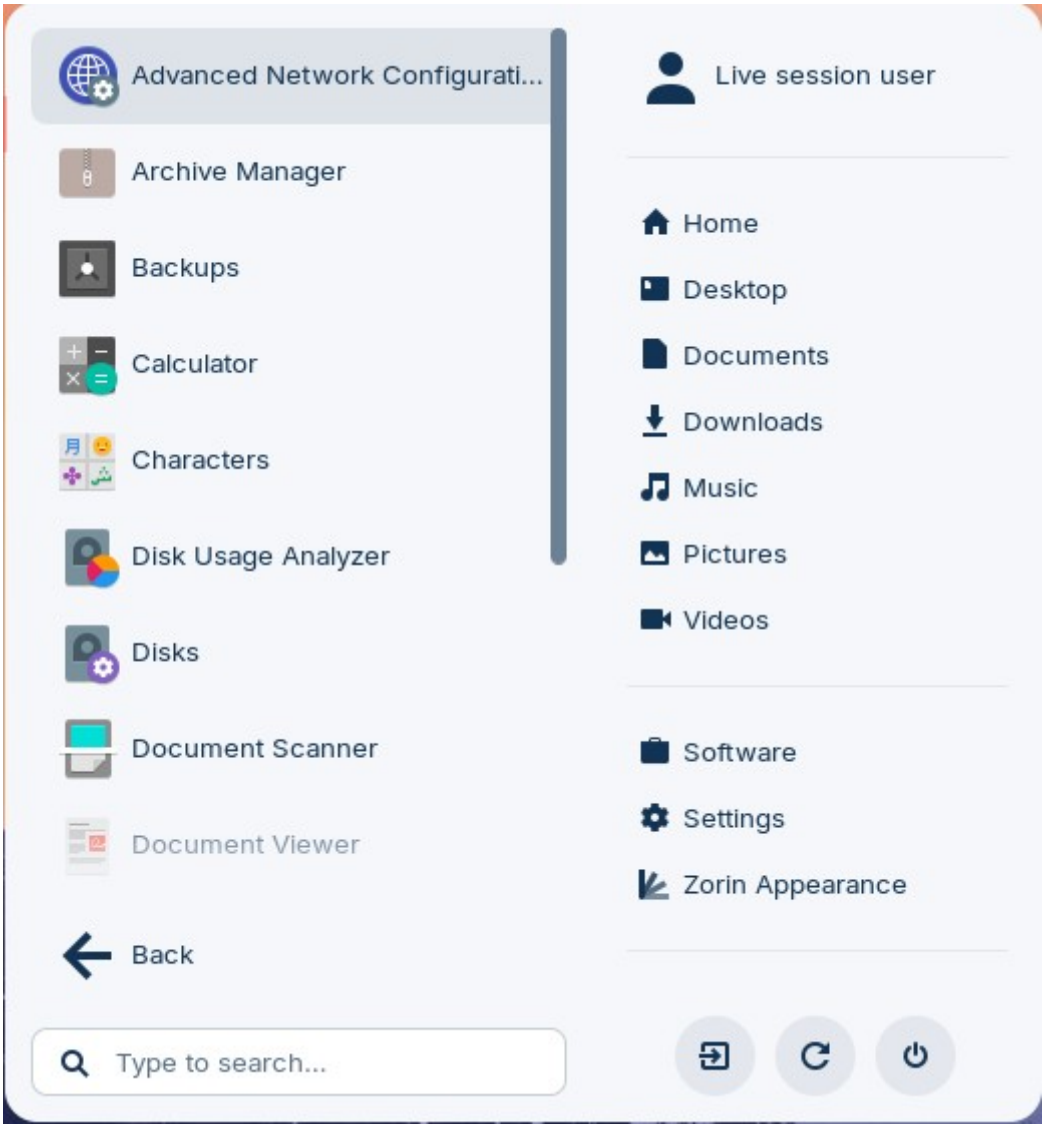


Fonts - This is where you can decide on the fonts you wish to use throughout the system. You might have noticed that I have adopted the ‘Comic Relief’ font, which is the open source equivalent of Microsoft’s Comic Sans font.
Interface Text, Monospace Text and **Document Text**.

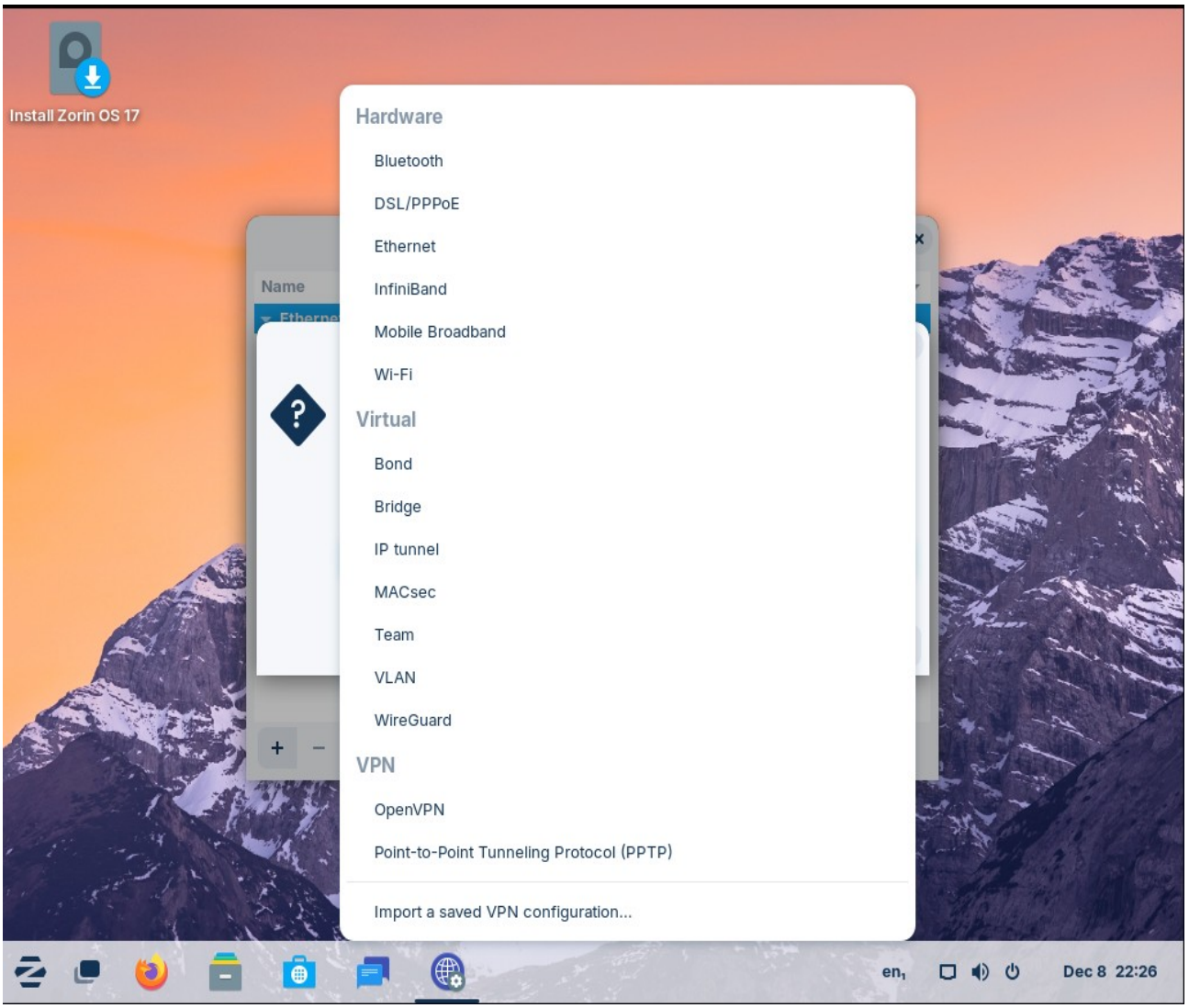
Zorin Connect- This is software to enable your smartphone to connect with the Zorin Desktop. With Zorin Connect you can see SMS messages on your Desktop, Send SMS messages from the Desktop, use your phone as a Multimedia Control device for Music, Video, or even as a Presentation remote control, the only requirement being that your smartphone has the Zorin Connect application installed and both have access to the same Network connection. You will need to download Zorin Connect for Android, either from Playstore or F-Droid or for I-Phone, App Store.



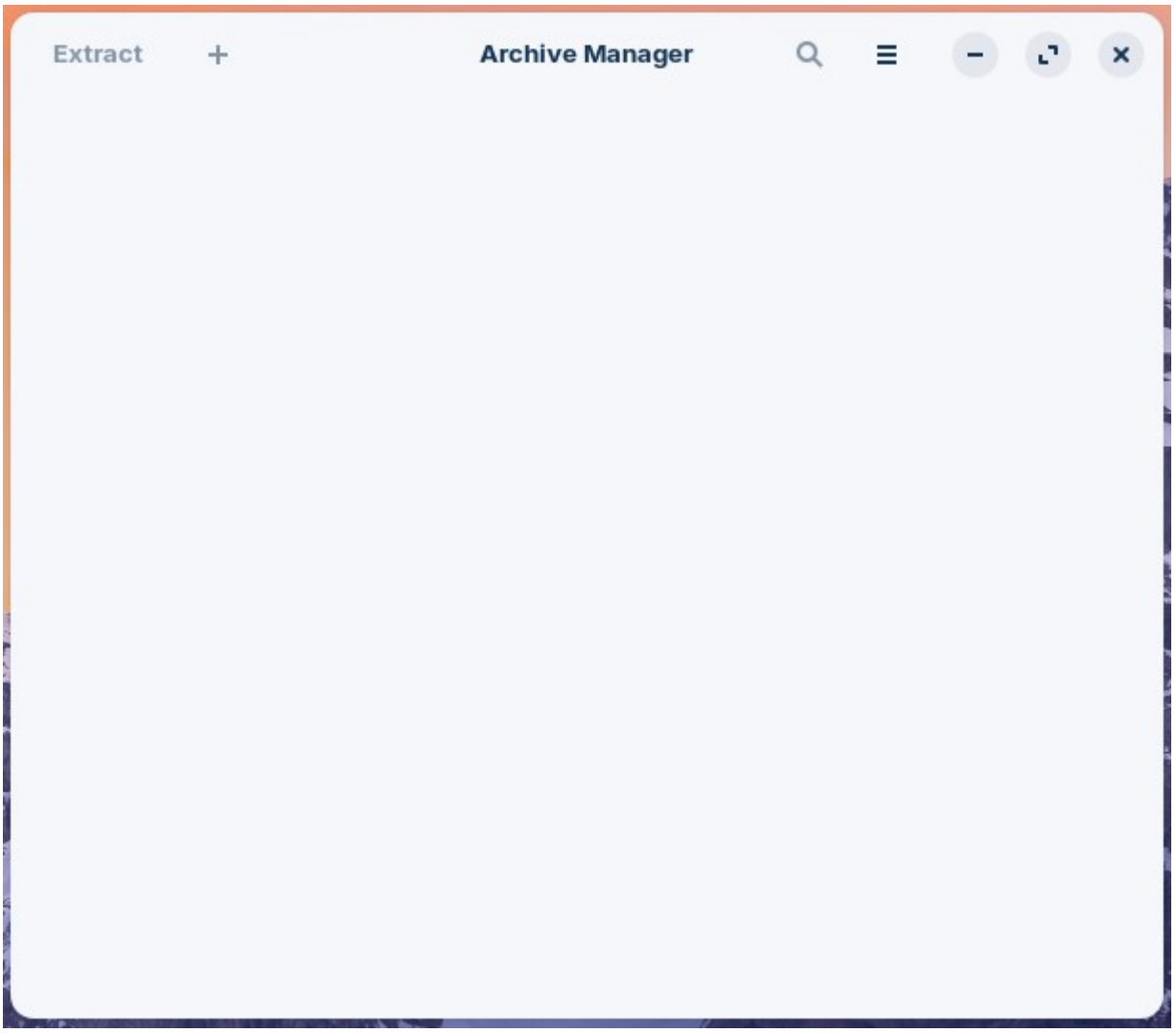
vii. a. Utilities (Top);



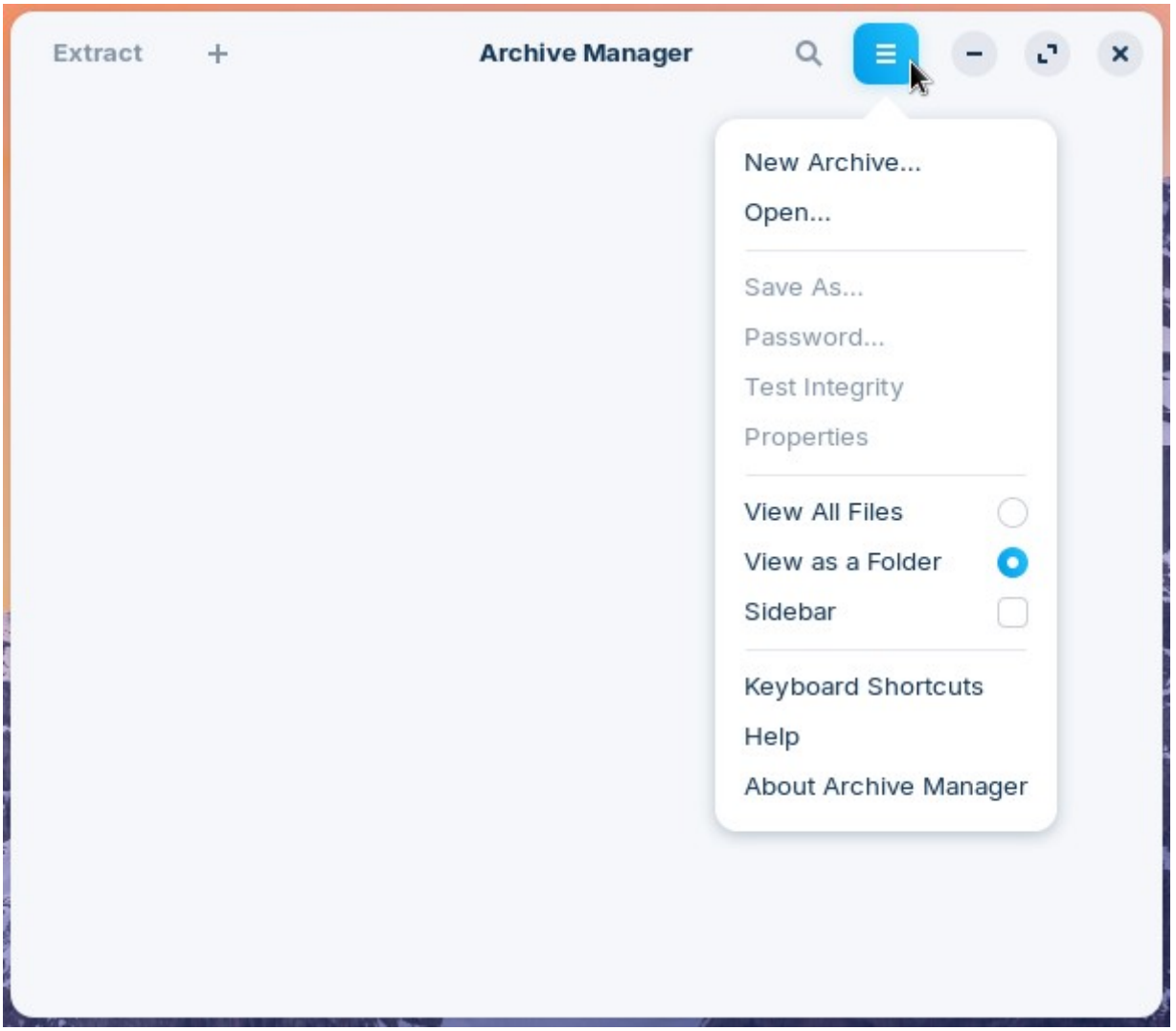
Advanced Network Configuration - Of all the latest changes to the OS, this has got to be one of the most outstanding updates to the Zorin Operating System. Gone are the days where users were struggling to connect using DSL/PPPoE - it’s all here (see screenshot on next page).


Install Zorin OS 17
Name
Hardware
Bluetooth
DSL/PPPoE
Ethernet
InfiniBand
Mobile Broadband
Wi-Fi
Virtual
Bond
Bridge
IP tunnel
MACsec
Team
VLAN
WireGuard
VPN
OpenVPN
Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol (PPTP)
Import a saved VPN configuration...
en,
Dec 8 22:26

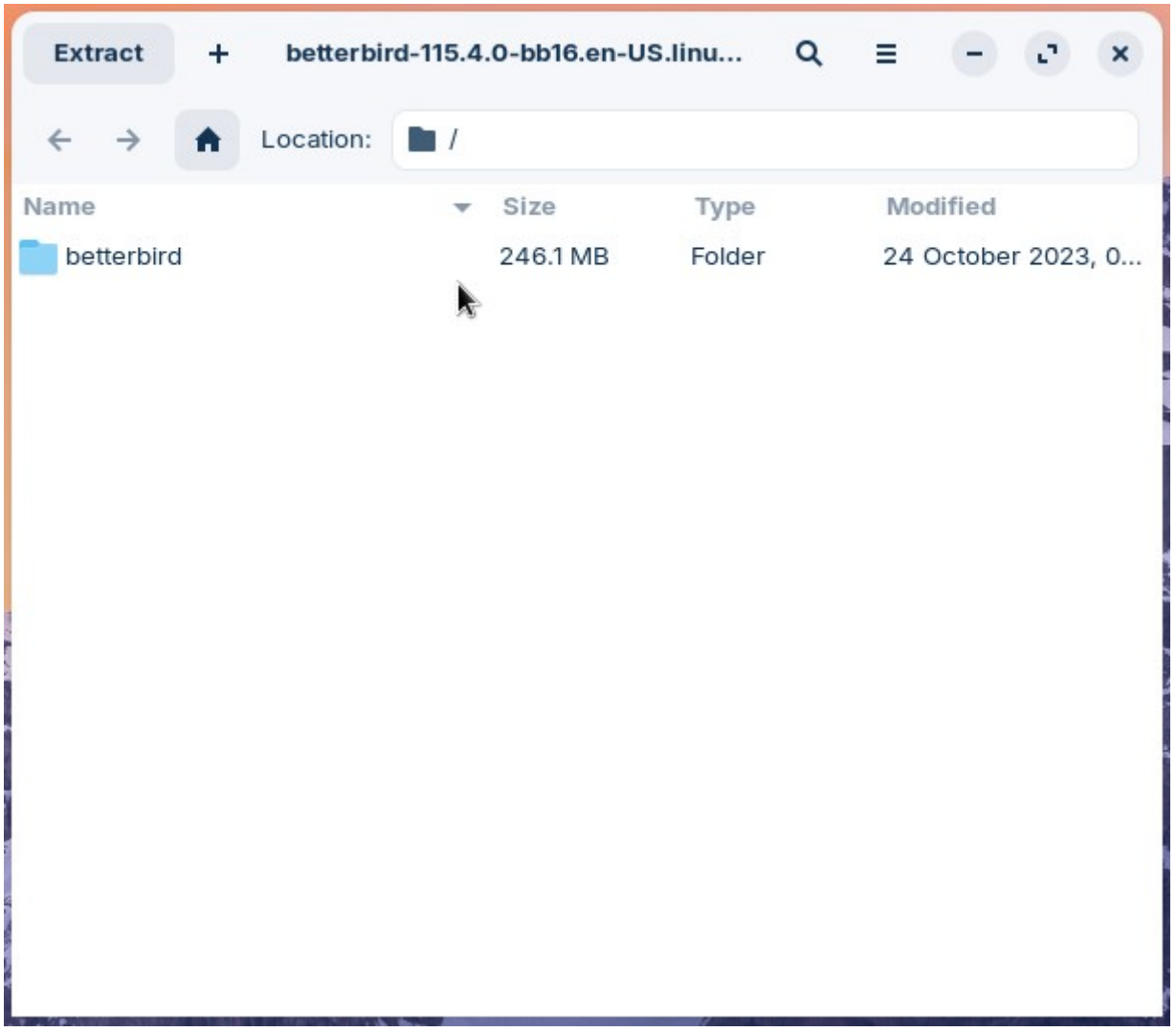
Archive Manager - this is similar to Winzip, WinRAR, 7-Zip archiving tool where you can extract compressed files, and compress files individually or as a batch.



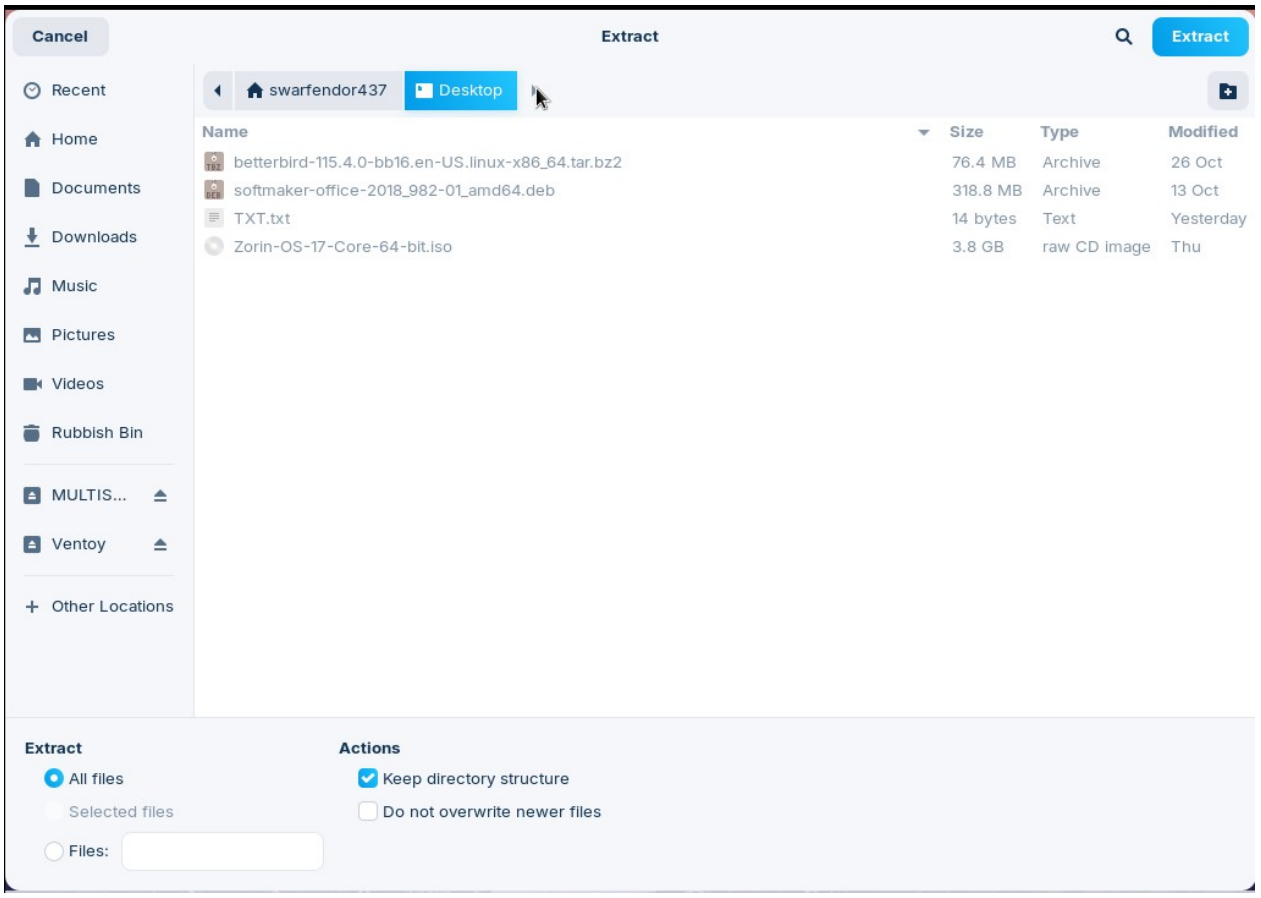
Click on the ‘hamburger’ icon (3 horizontal bars) to open the menu options:



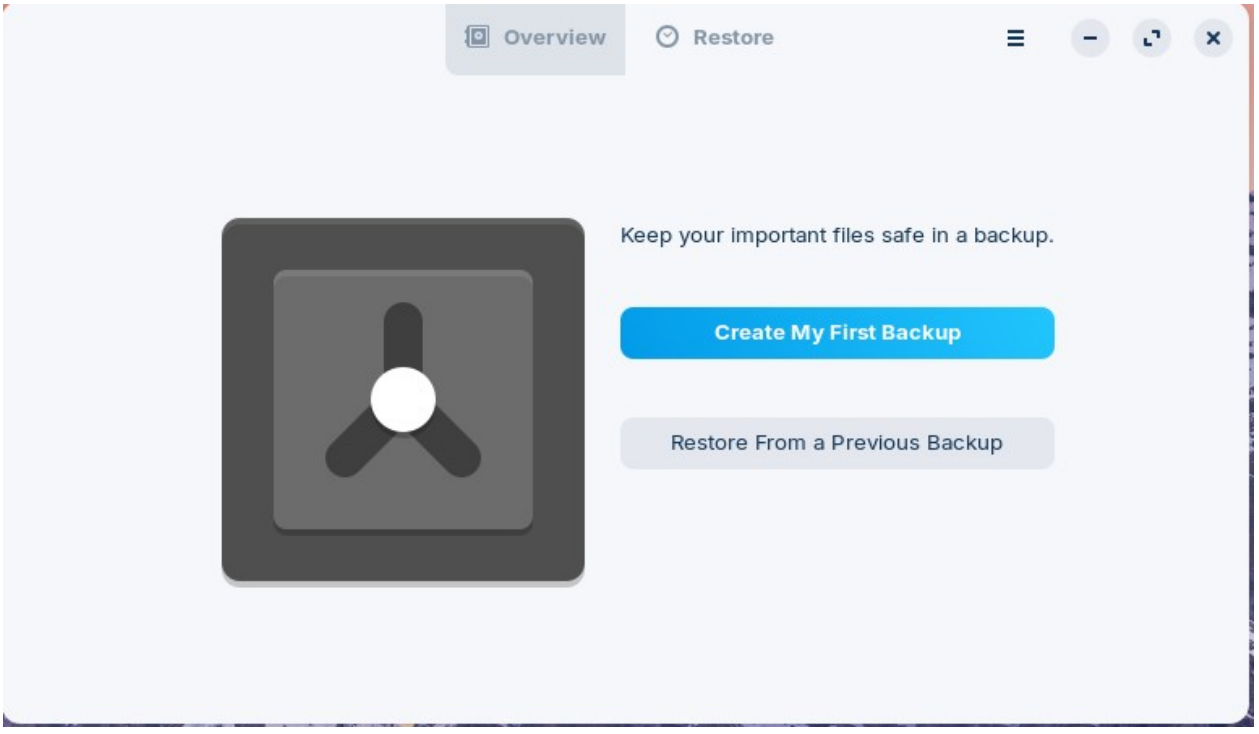
Here I am selecting ‘Betterbird’, a fork of Thunderbird:



When selected you can extract to the original location (Desktop in this example) or a place of your choosing:

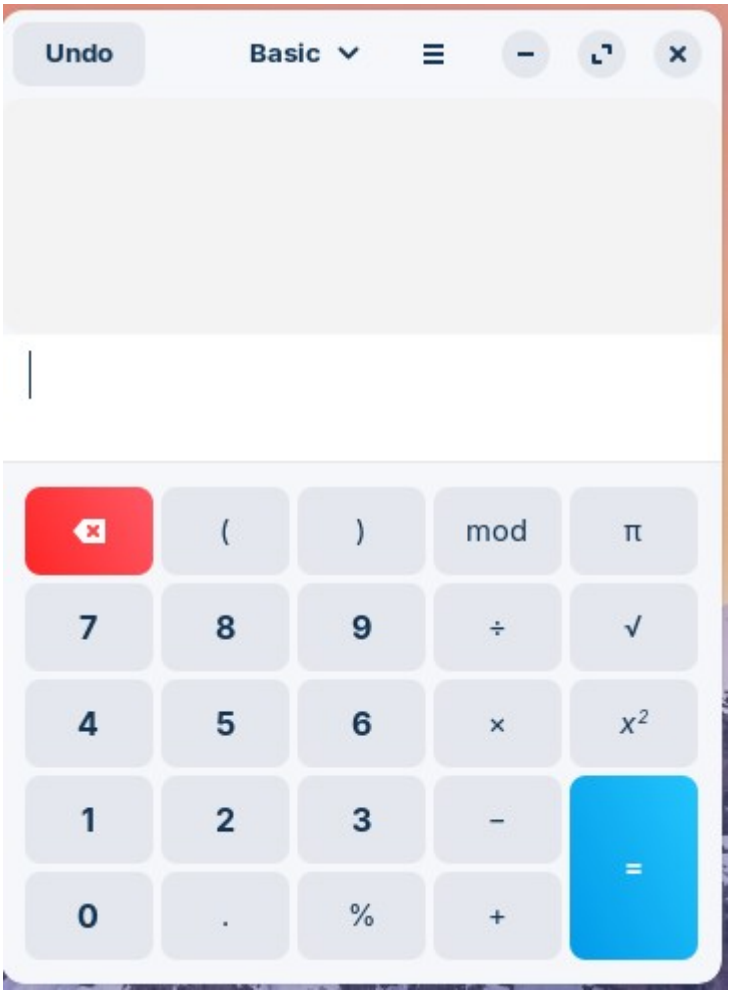


Backups - this is the new name for **Déjà Dup** - guide on its use here: https://askmeaboutlinux.com/2022/10/27/deja-dup-for-backups-on-linux/ (Personally, it is just a lot simpler to create a folder on an external drive and copy the entire contents of your home folder into it (including hidden files), or better still, use Timeshift (more on this later), but it is always good practice to backup to an external drive on a regular basis to prevent loss of data.

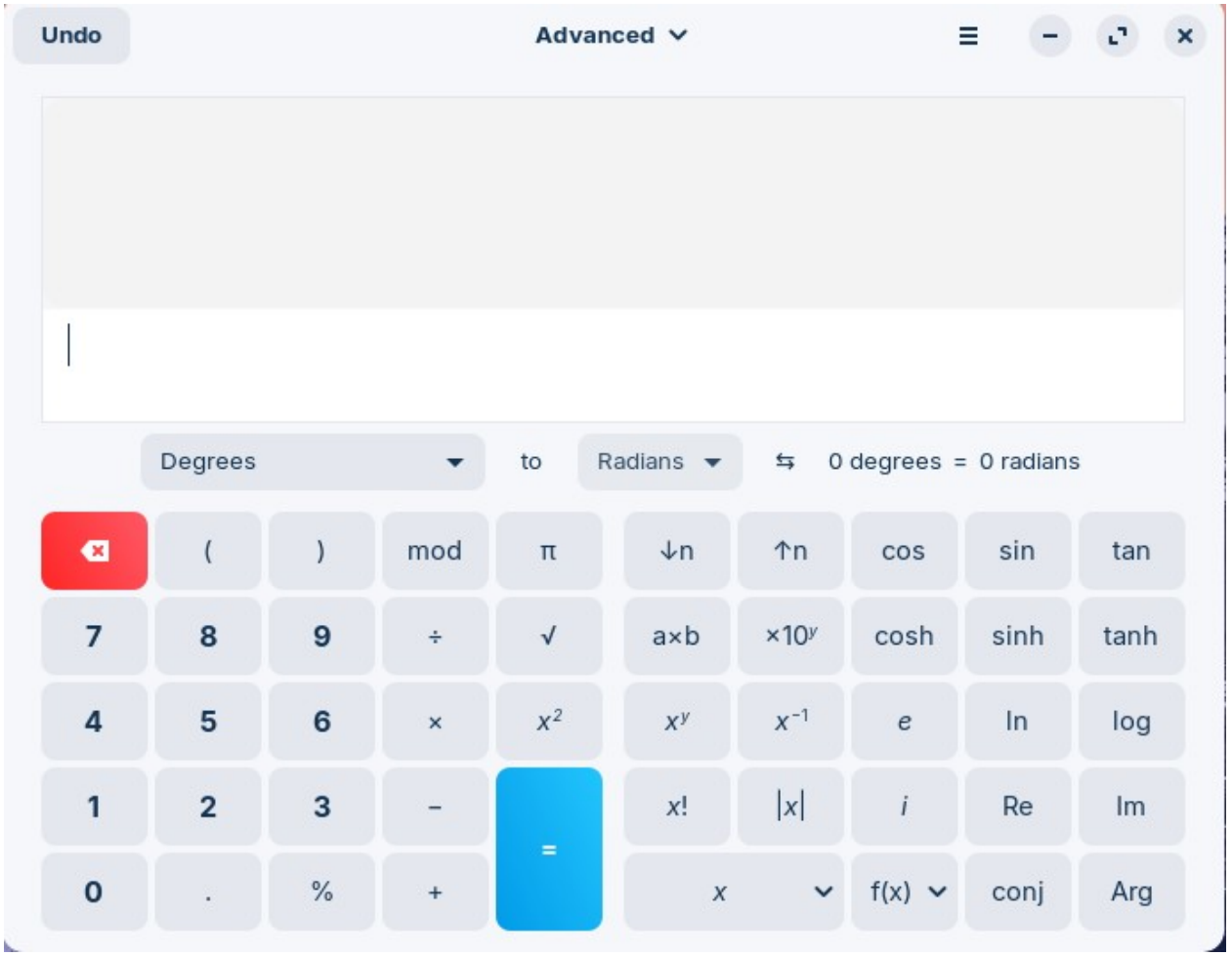


Calculator - a calculator with many faces, Basic, Advanced (Scientific), Financial (includes currency converter), Programming, Keyboard (= same as using Paper option as it used to be called - linear mathematics for want of a better description!

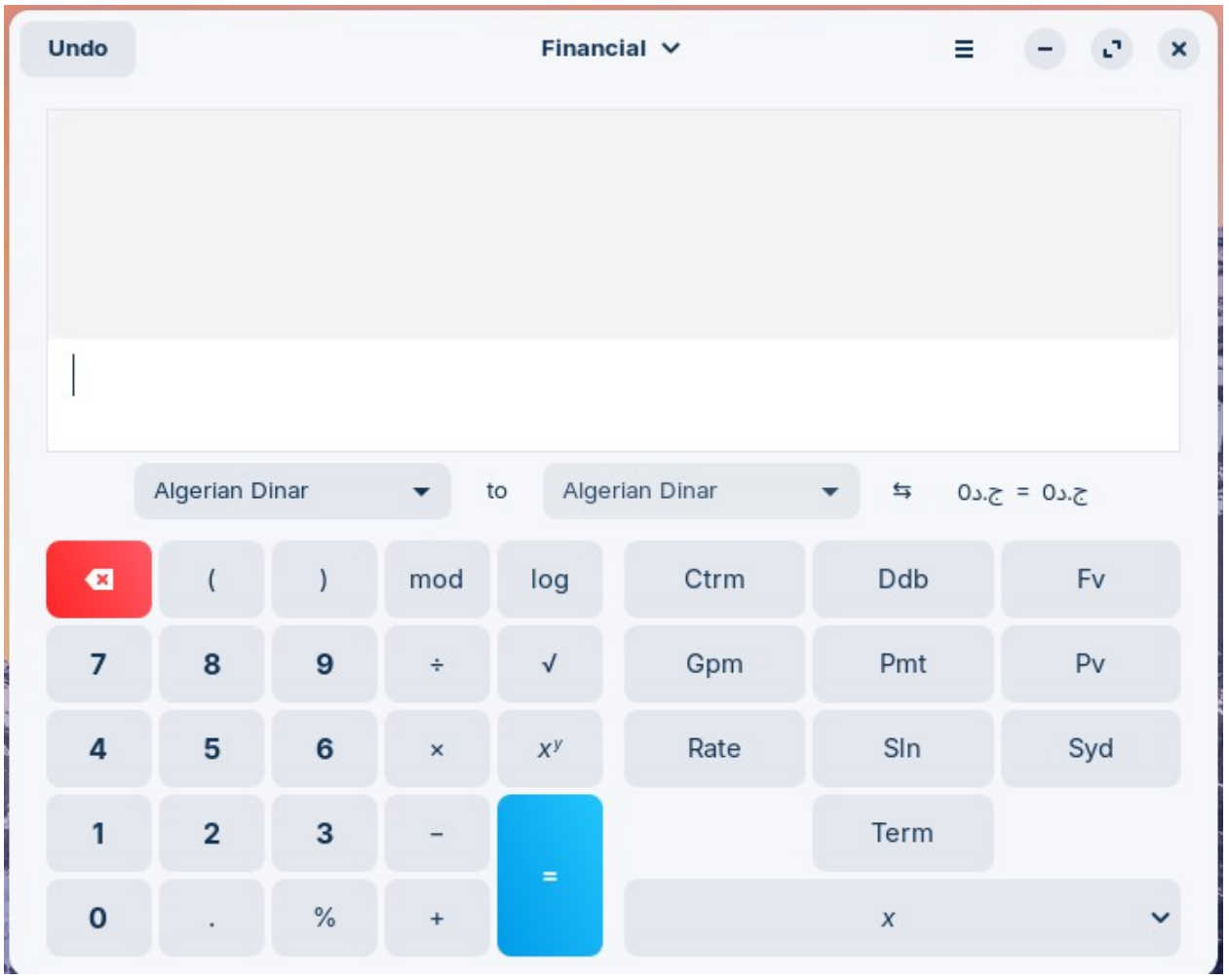
Basic:



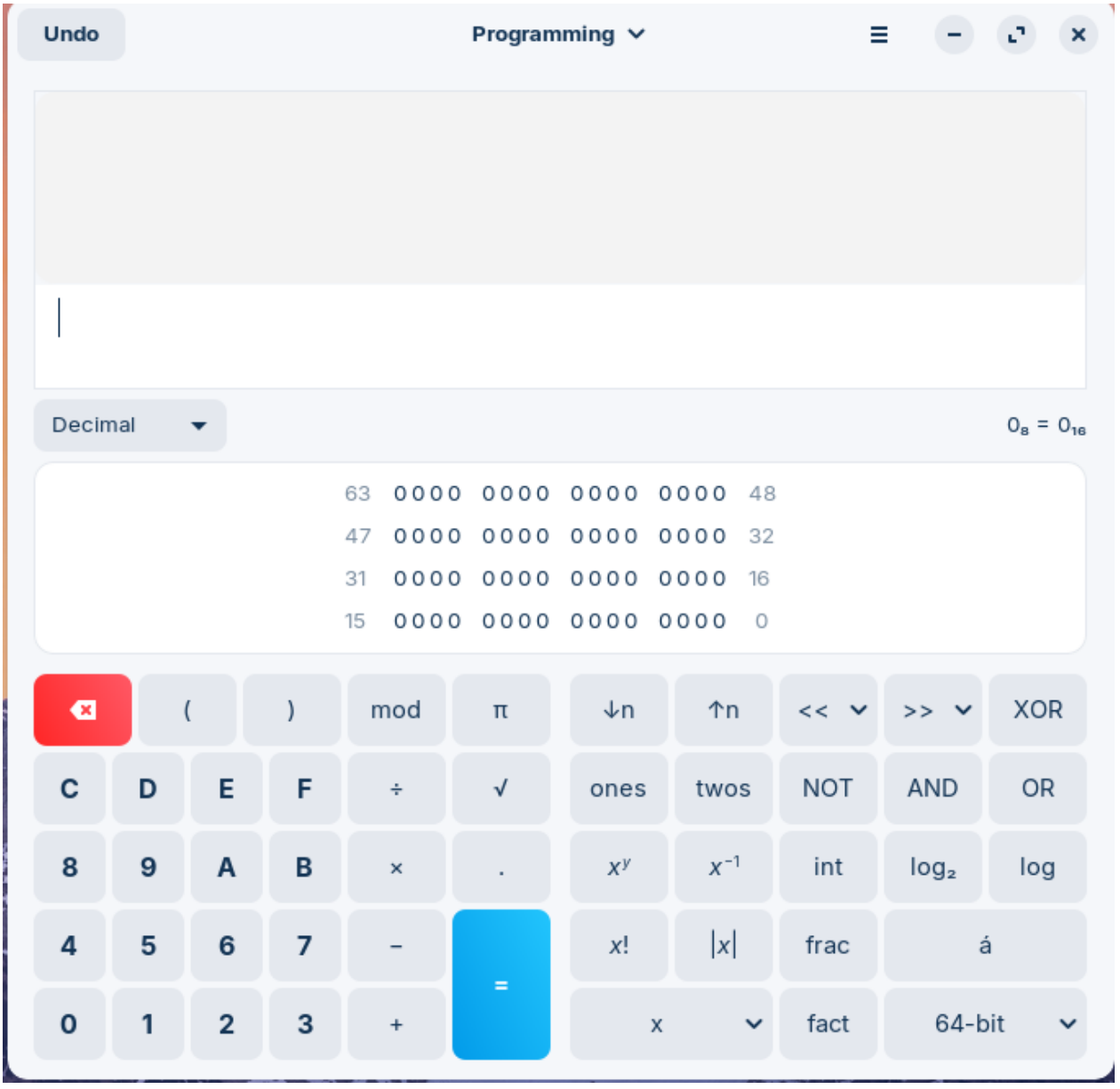
Advanced:


Undo
Advanced
Degrees
to
Radians
0 degrees = 0 radians
( ) mod π ↓n ↑n cos sin tan
7 8 9 ÷ √ a×b ×10^y cosh sinh tanh
4 5 6 × x^2 x^y x^-1 e ln log
1 2 3 − = x! |x| i Re Im
0 . % + x f(x) conj Arg

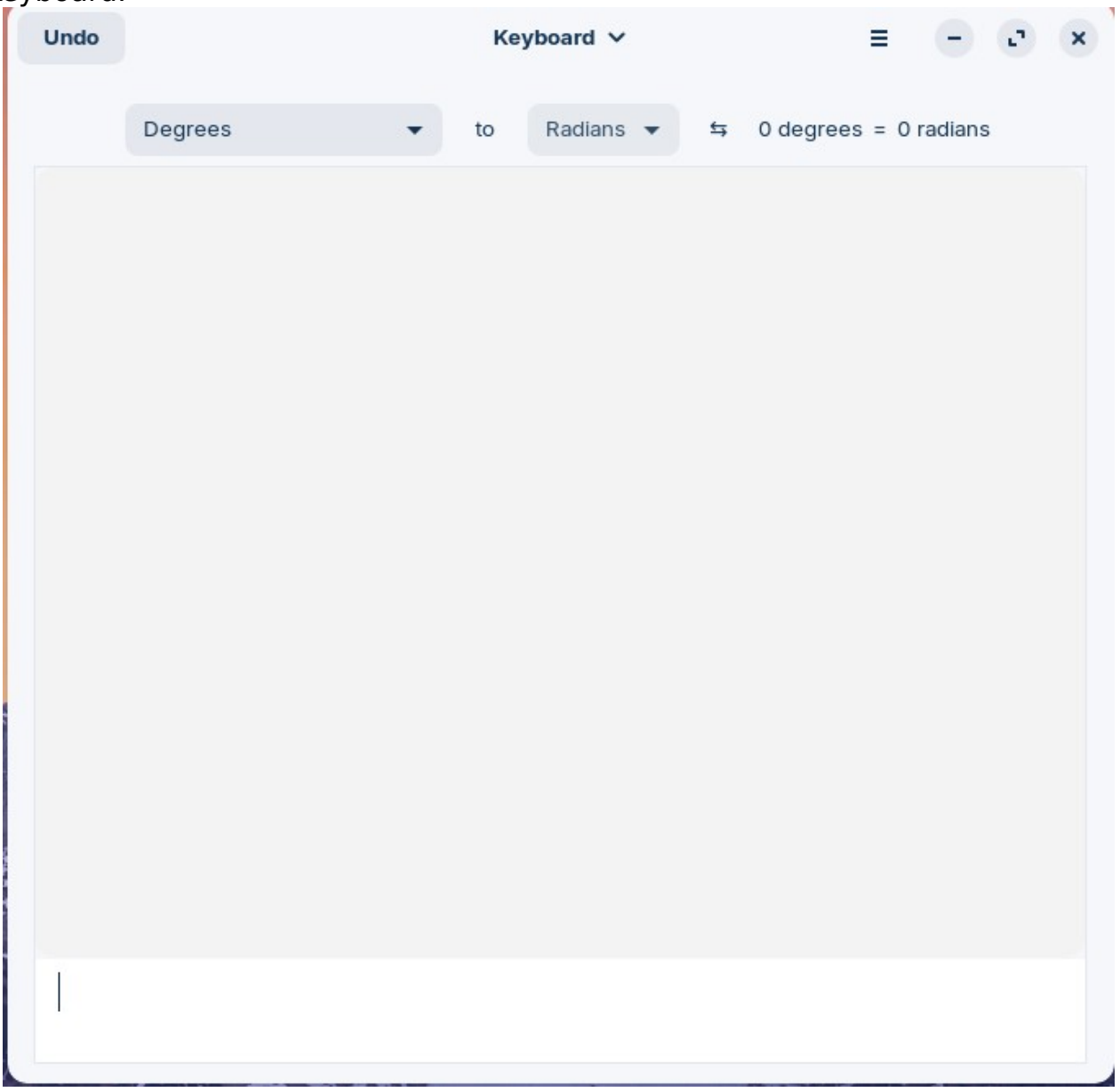
Financial:


Undo
Financial
Algerian Dinar
to
Algerian Dinar
0د.ج = 0د.ج
( ) mod log Ctrm Ddb Fv
7 8 9 ÷ √ Gpm Pmt Pv
4 5 6 × x^y Rate Sln Syd
1 2 3 − = Term
0 . % + x

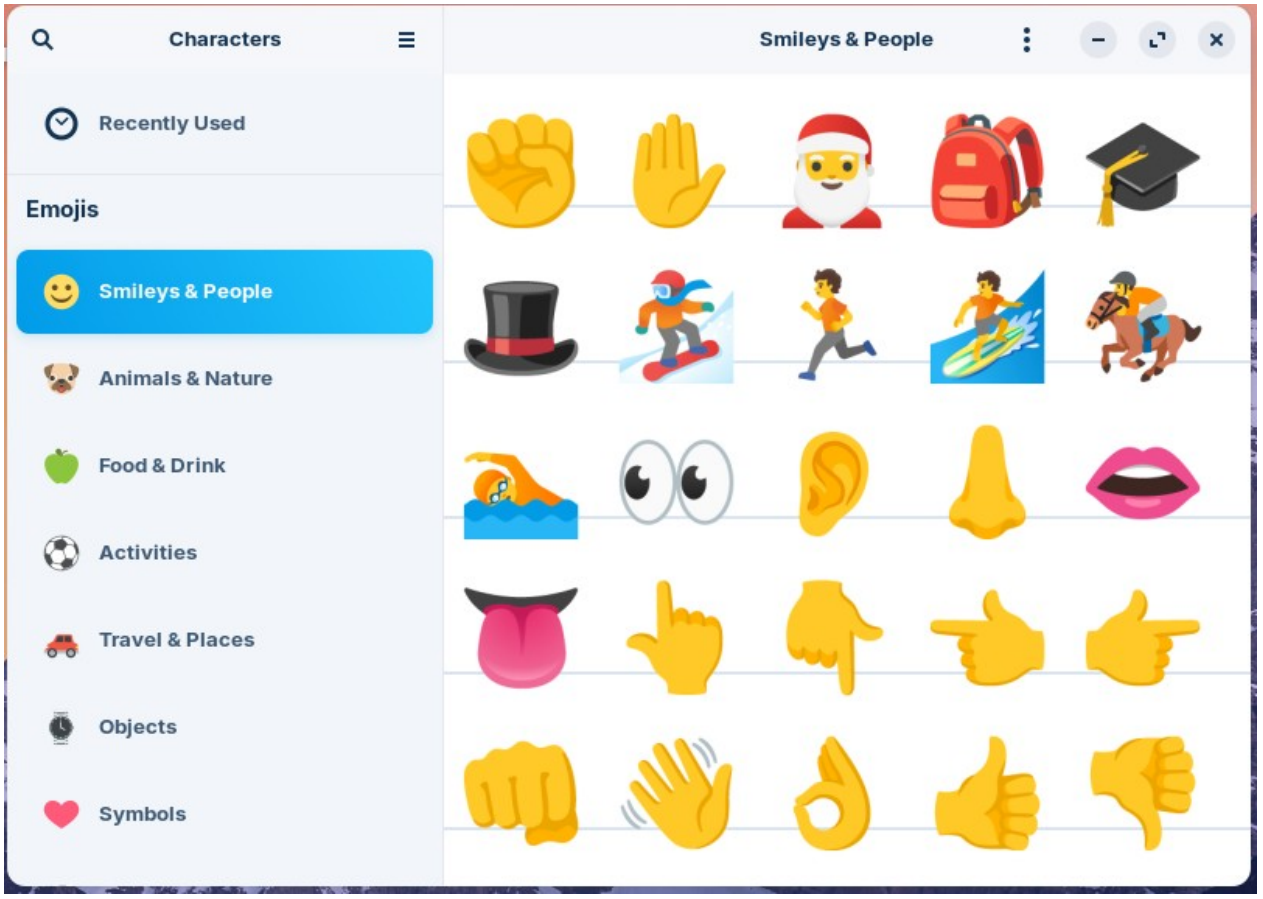
Programming:



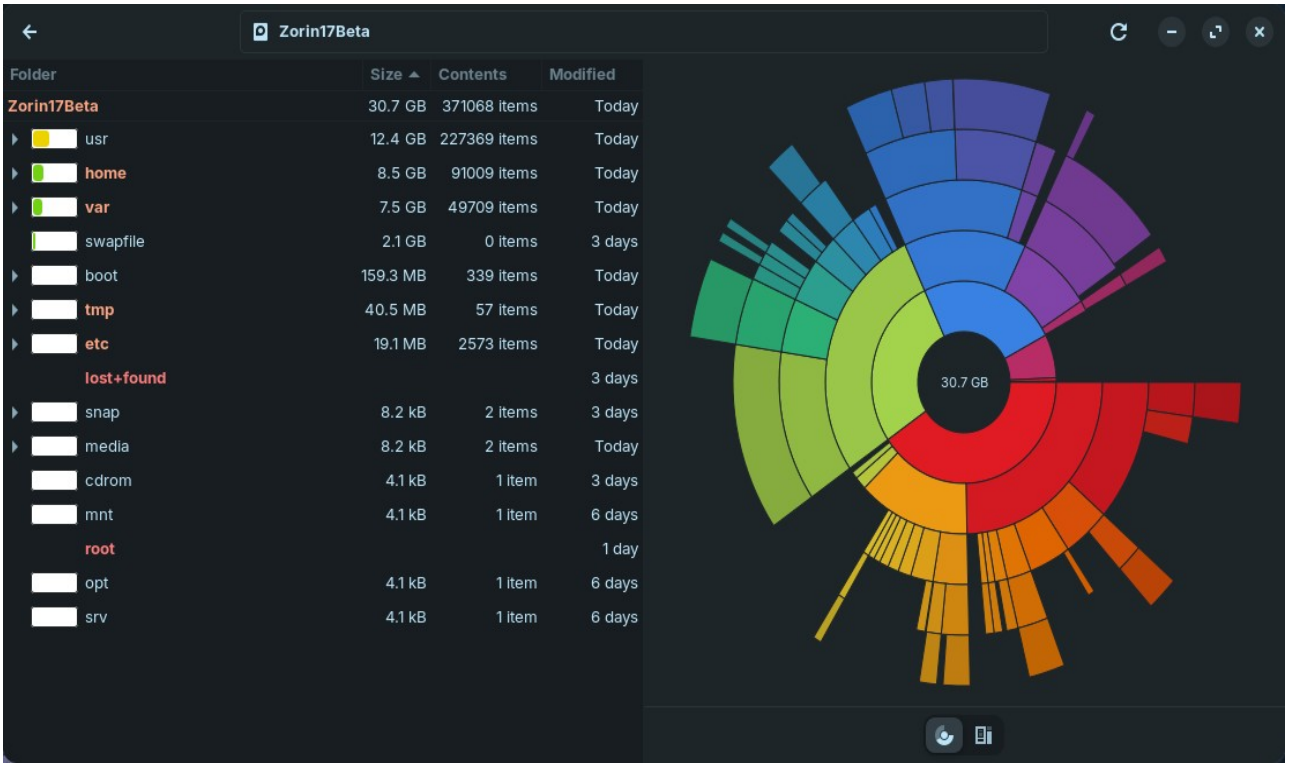
Keyboard:



Characters- basically, fancy emojis! Here is a sample:



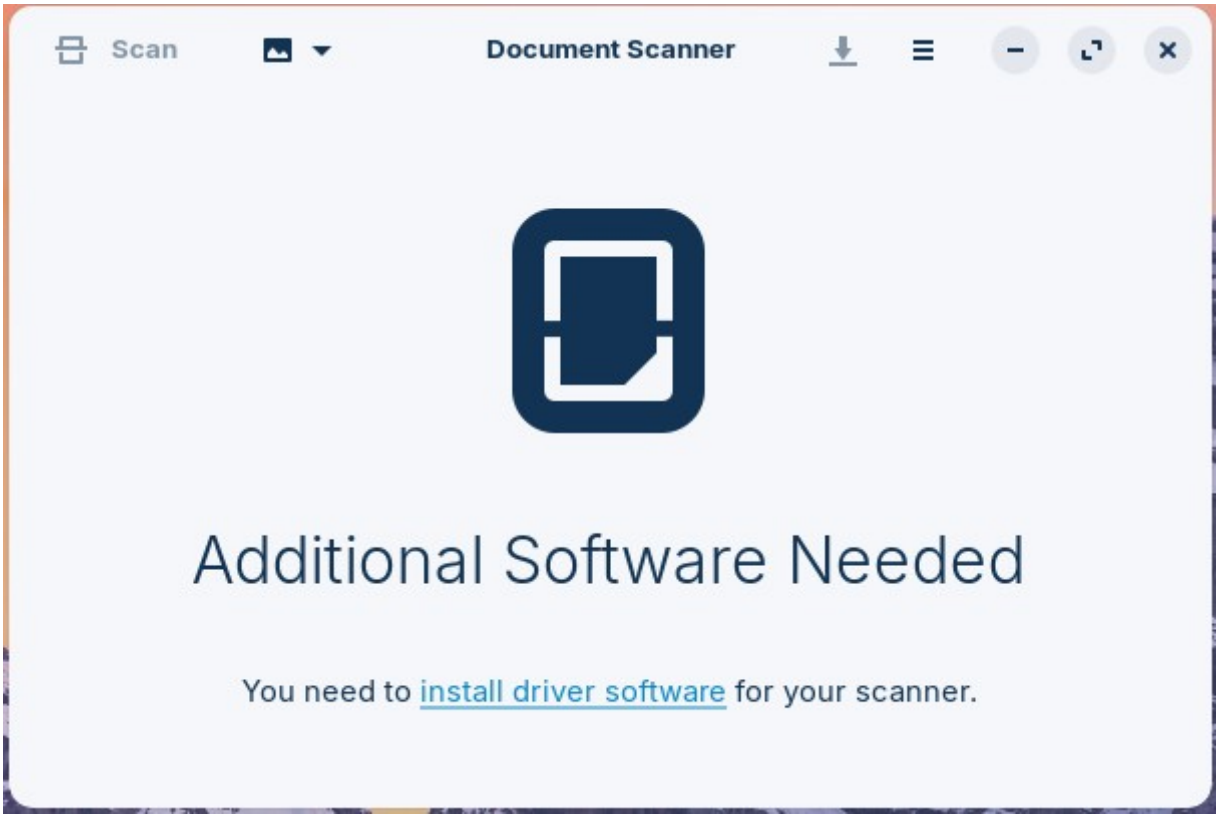
Disk Usage Analyzer - Analyses what is taking up space on your Disk/s:



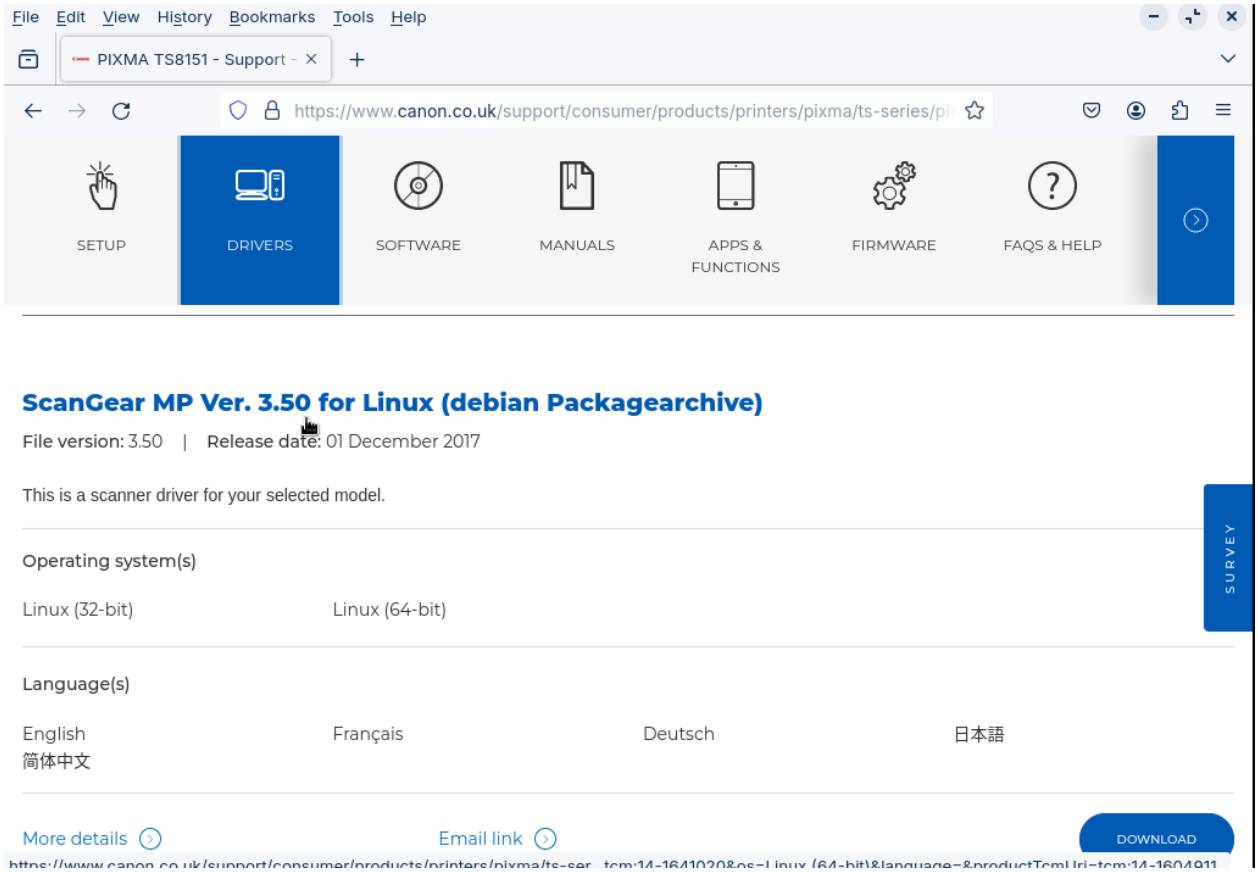
Disks (see page 36) - this is a repeat of what can be found in System Tools - the choice is yours if you want to keep both Menu items or simply untick the one you don't want to appear in the Menu.

Document Scanner - simple interface to access your Scanner (if it is supported - most scanners are but there might be the odd one that doesn't work (such as my Canon LiDE 500F!). It will work, generally, with most 'All-in-One' Printer/Scanners. If not you can always purchase VueScan from here: https://www.hamrick.com/

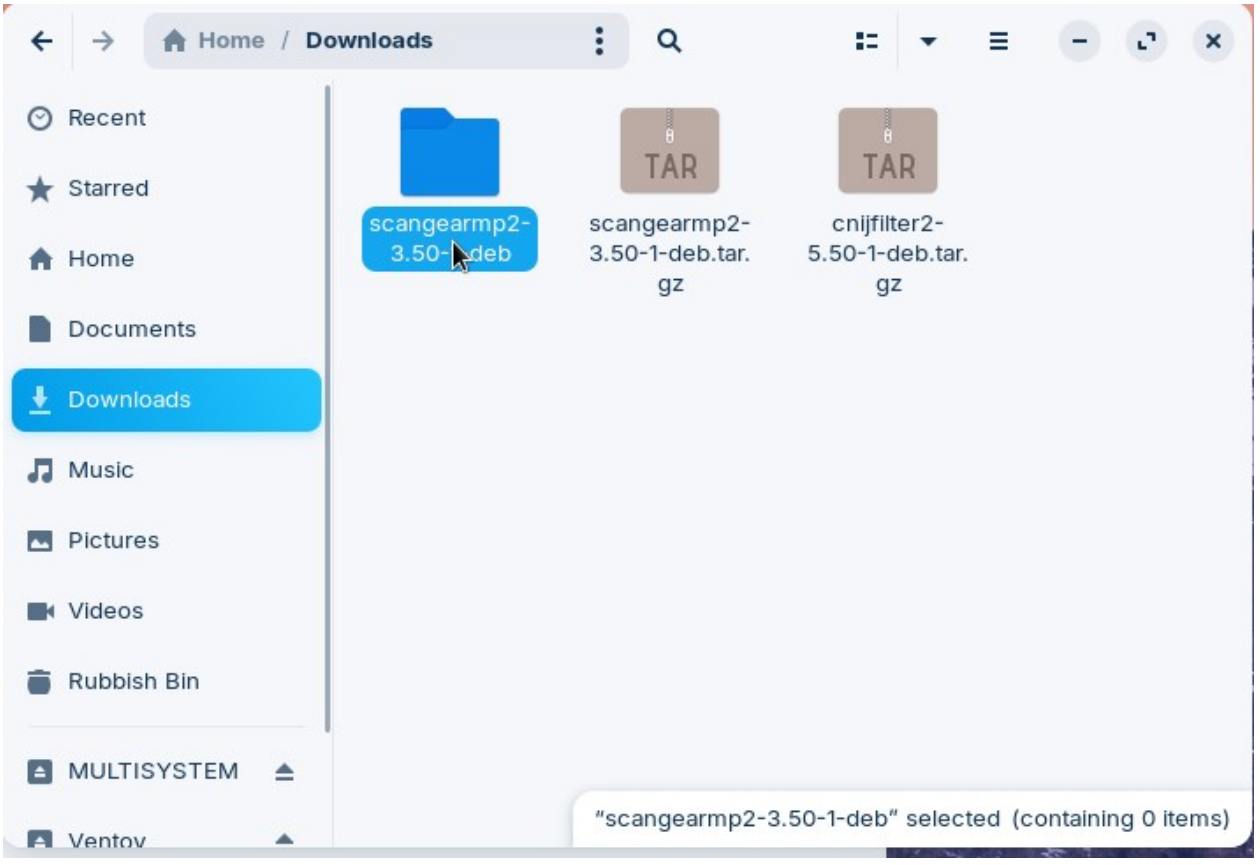
After installing Zorin 17 as a VM and trying to run Document Scanner I got this message:



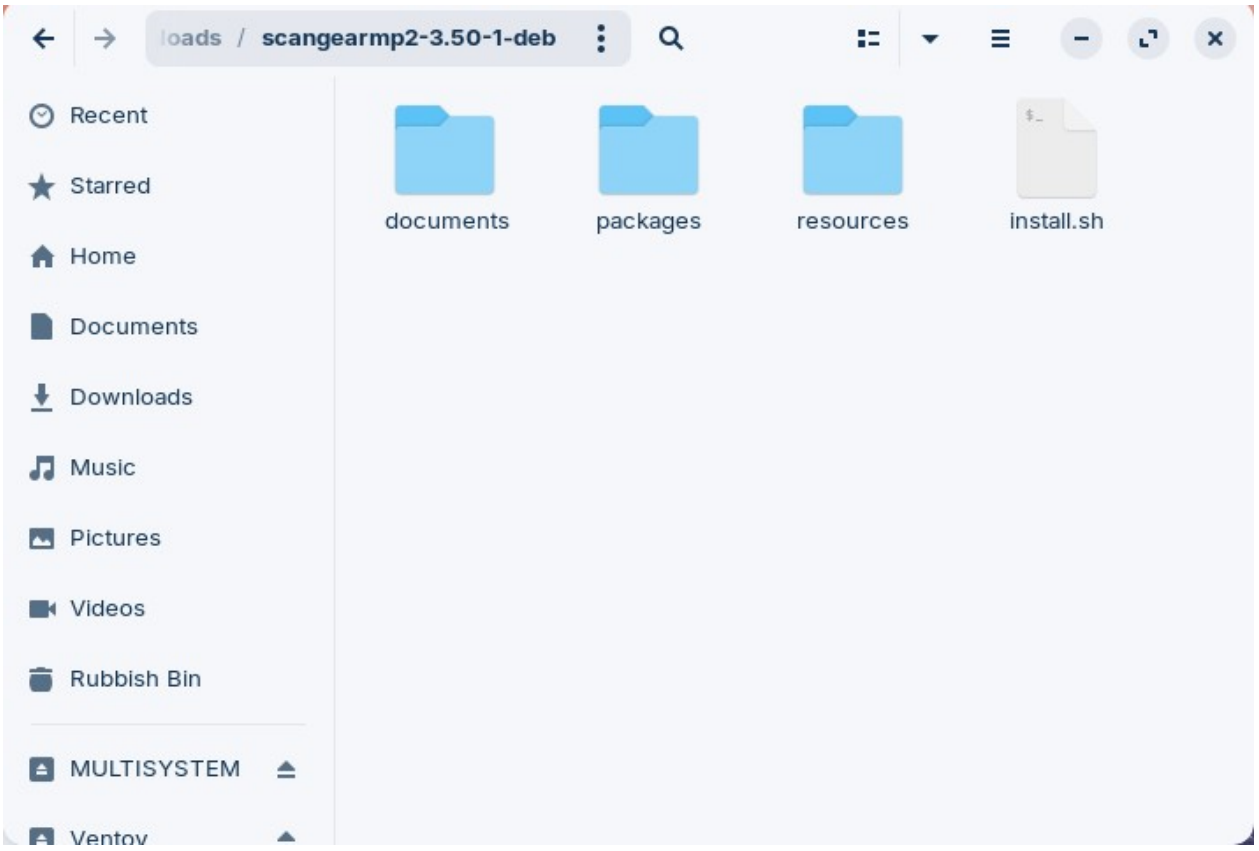
When you click on the link, it takes you to the SANE project page to 'backend' drivers. An easier option is to go to (if you have a Canon Scanner/All-in-One Printer) to the Canon website and download the scangearmp2-3.50-1-deb.tar.gz file:



Then extract the .tar.gz file within Downloads:

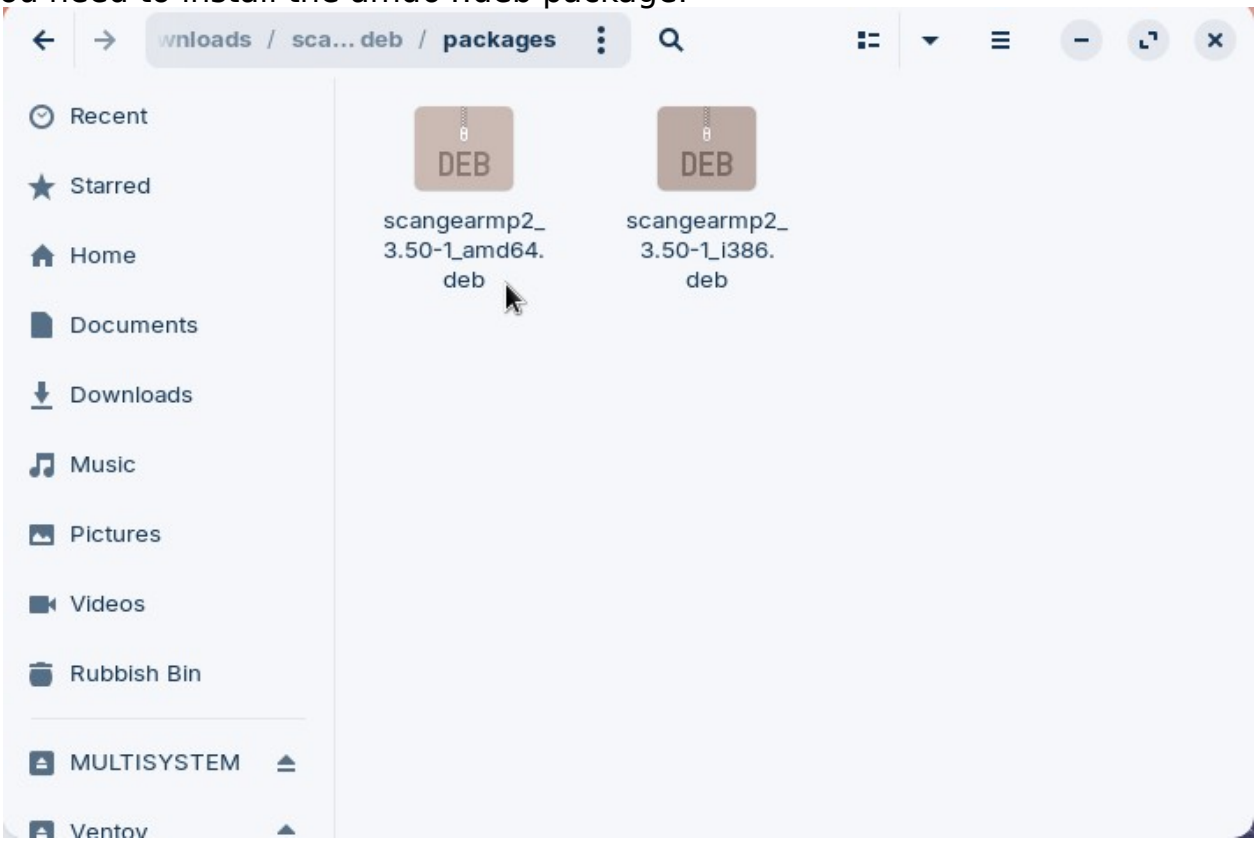


Open the extracted folder:

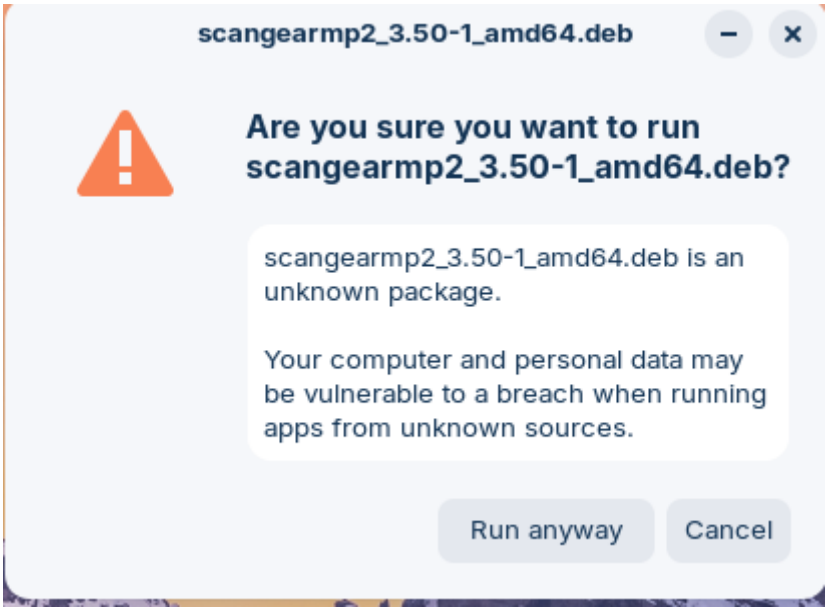


Next, open the subfolder, **packages**.

You need to install the amd64.deb package:



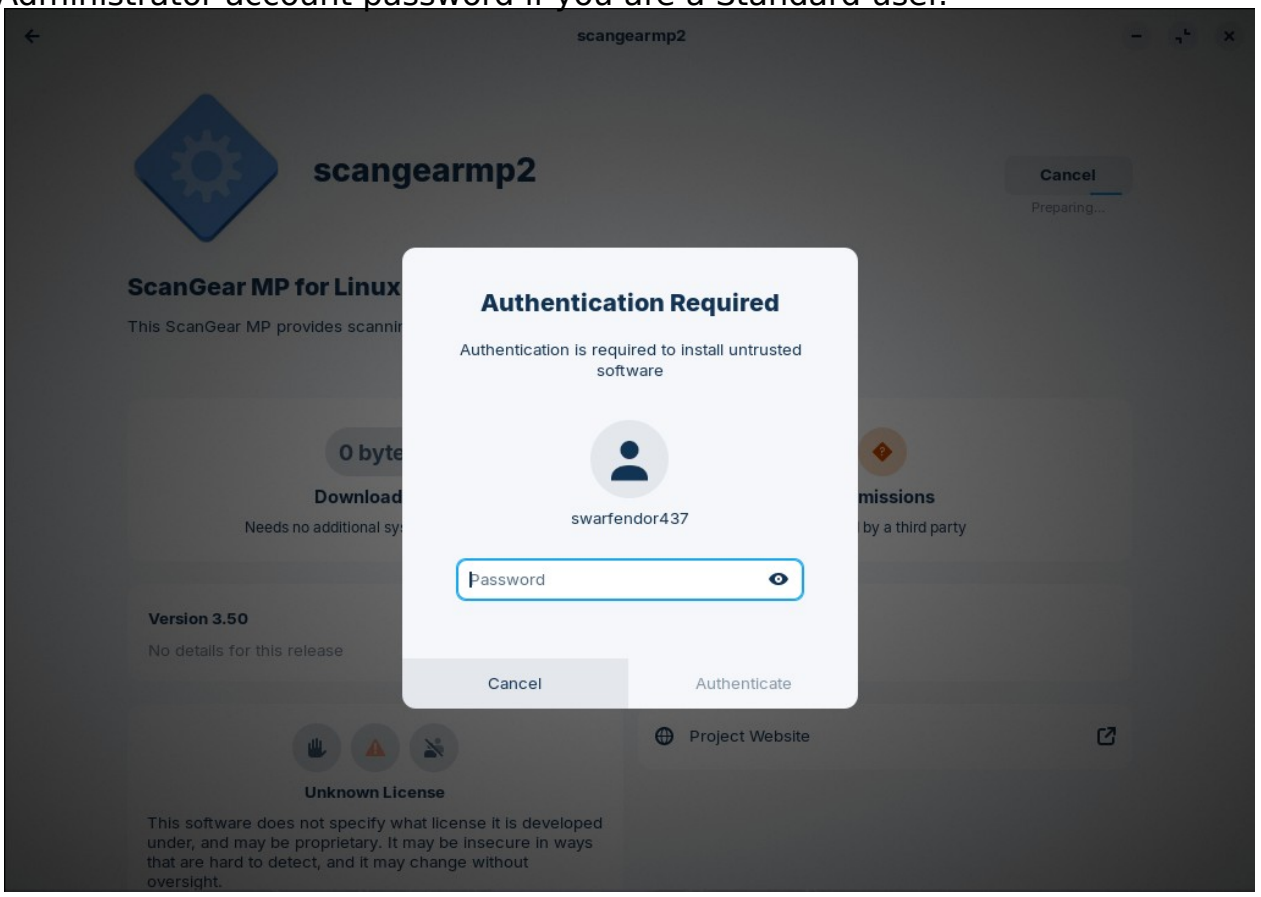
Right-click and choose the first option **Open With Install Linux Application** or if installed **gdebi** then select **Open With Other Application**.
When choosing the first option you will get this warning message:



Select **Run anyway** and this window opens, click on **Install** button:

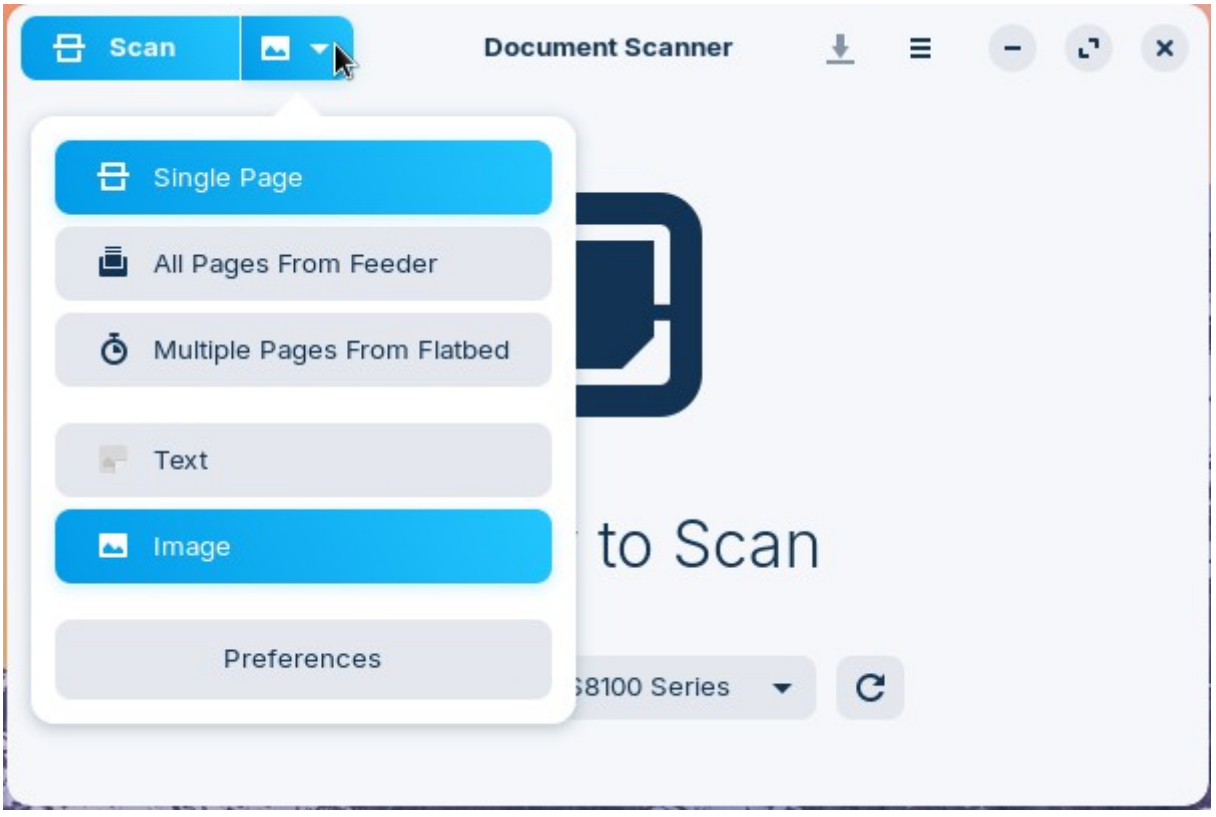


You will then be presented with the Authorisation window, which, depending on how you install Zorin will be your password if you are an Administrator, or the Administrator account password if you are a Standard user.

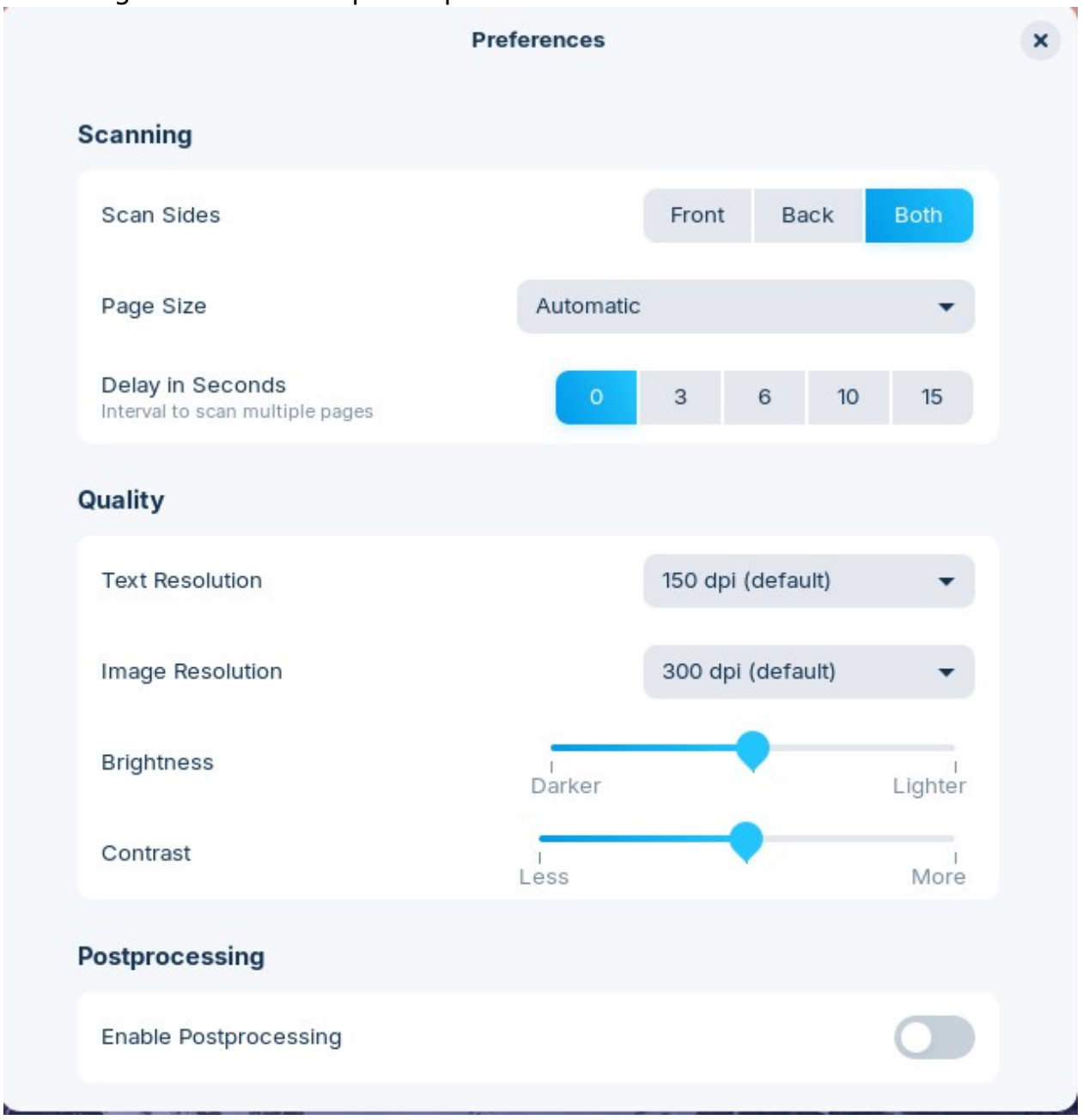


After installing, reboot your computer and launch Document Scanner. From the dropdown list you should choose **eSCL Canon TS8100 series (USB)** if connected to the computer. If an all-in-one device is on the network, then select the first option, **Canon PIXMA TS8100 Series**.

Selecting the drop-down arrow in the box next to the button with **Scan** on it, choose the method of scanning you need to deploy:

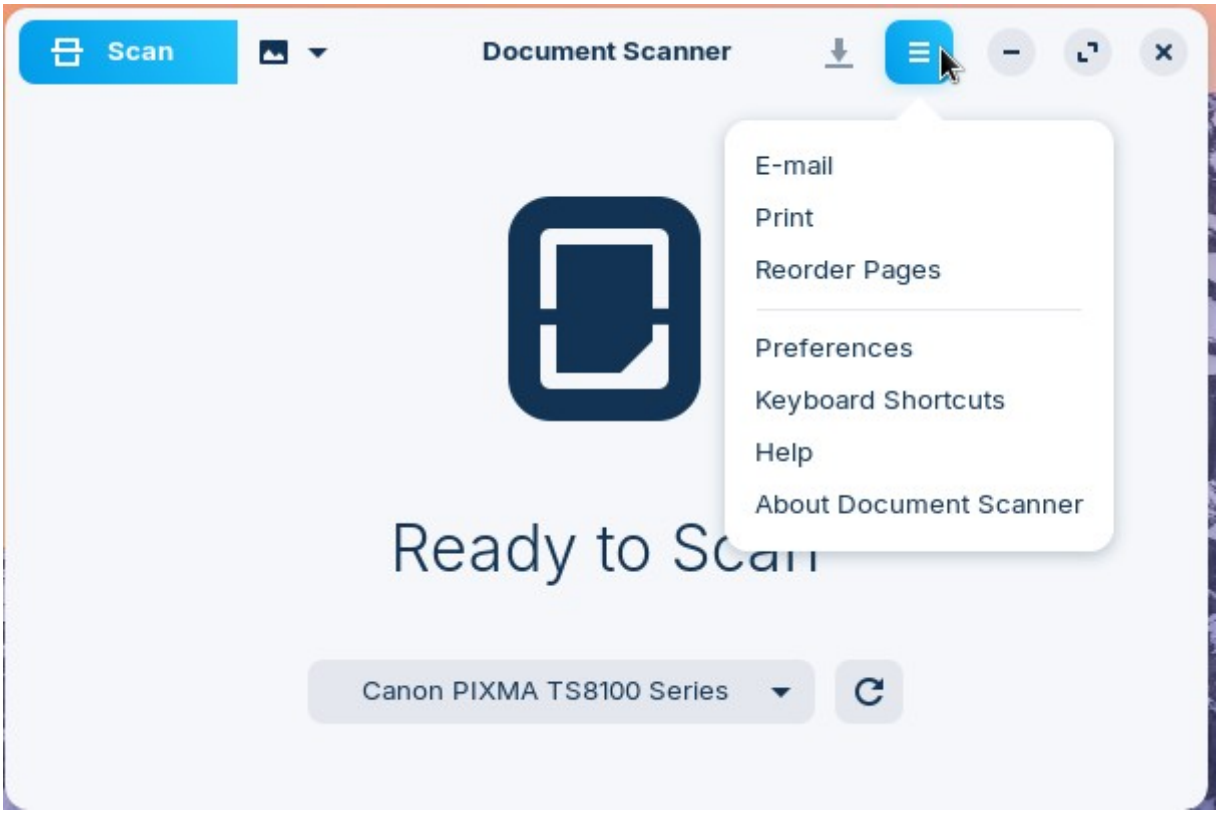


Selecting **Preferences** opens up this window:

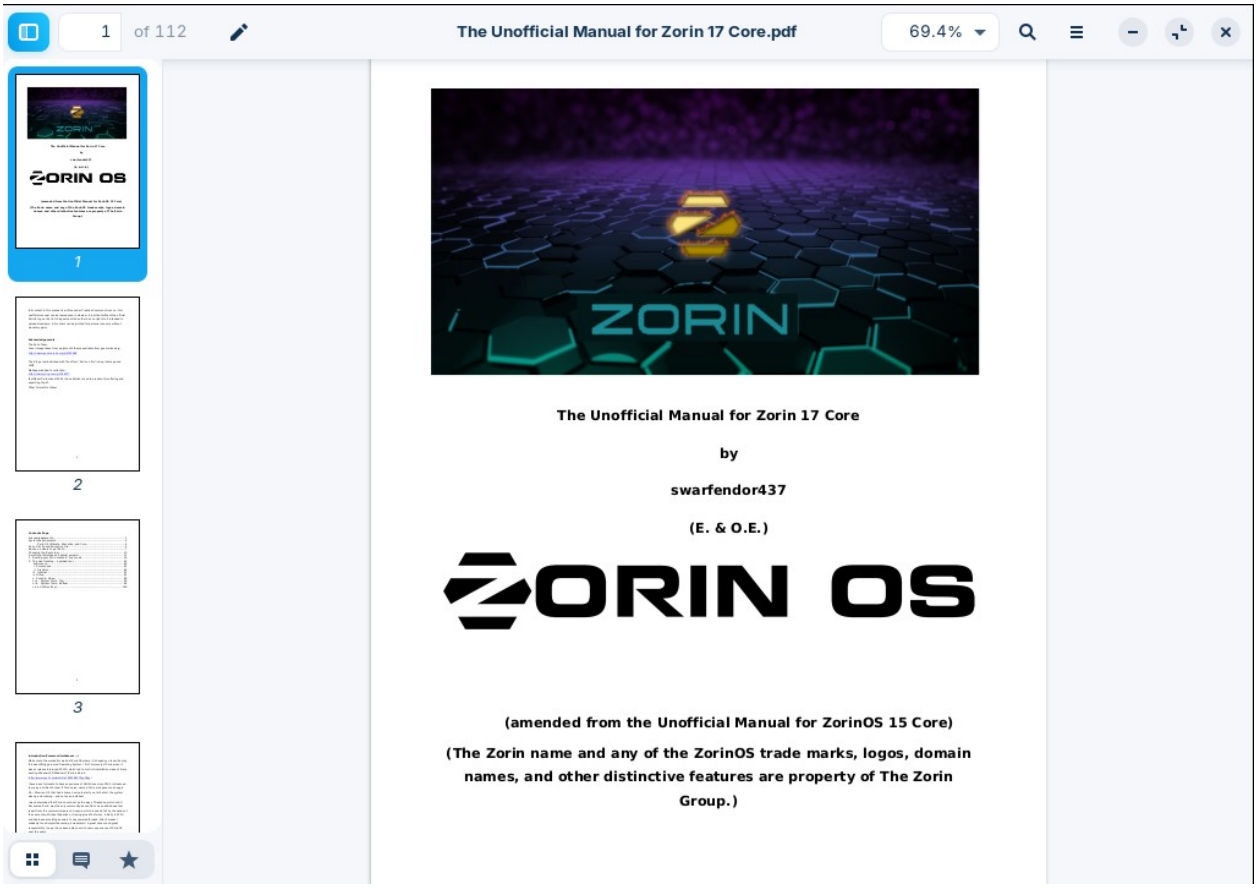


Once you are happy with your choices, select **Scan**.

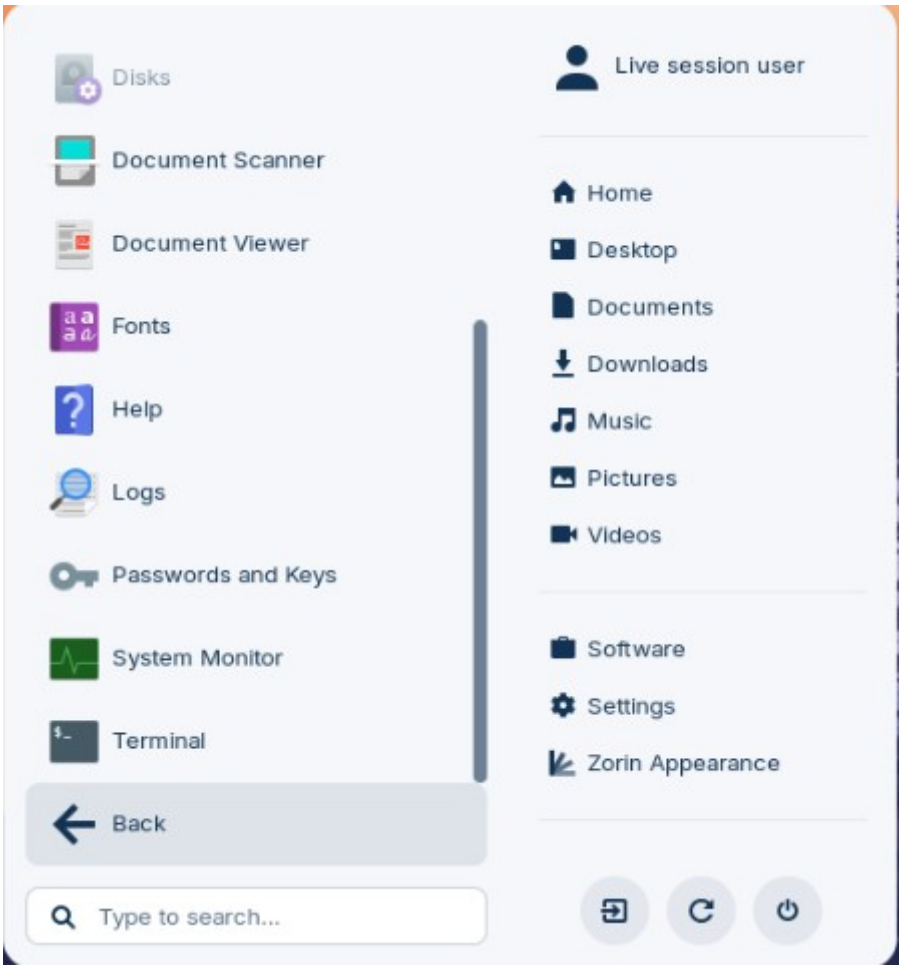
Other options in regard to what you want to do with your scanned documents is achieved via the ‘hamburger’ (3 horizontal bars) button on the right of the interface:



Document Viewer - Evince by any other name! Supports documents in PDF, PS, EPS, XPS, DjVu, TIFF, DVI (with SyncTex), and Comic Books archives (CBR, CBT, CBZ, CB7).

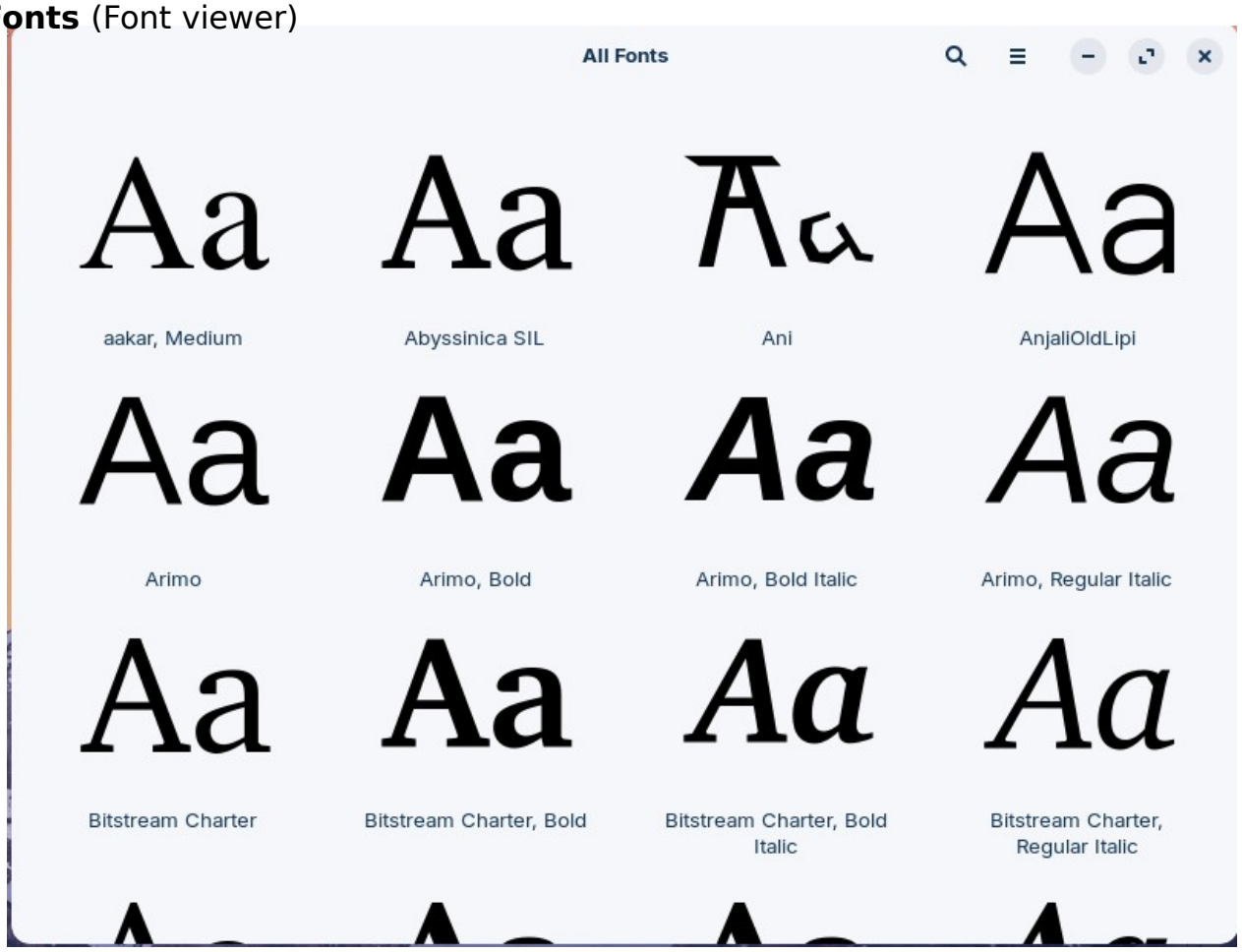


vii. b. Utilities (bottom)



Here we have **Fonts** (font viewer), **Help**, **Logs**, **Password and Keys**, **System Monitor** (Task Manager), **Terminal** (Command prompt).

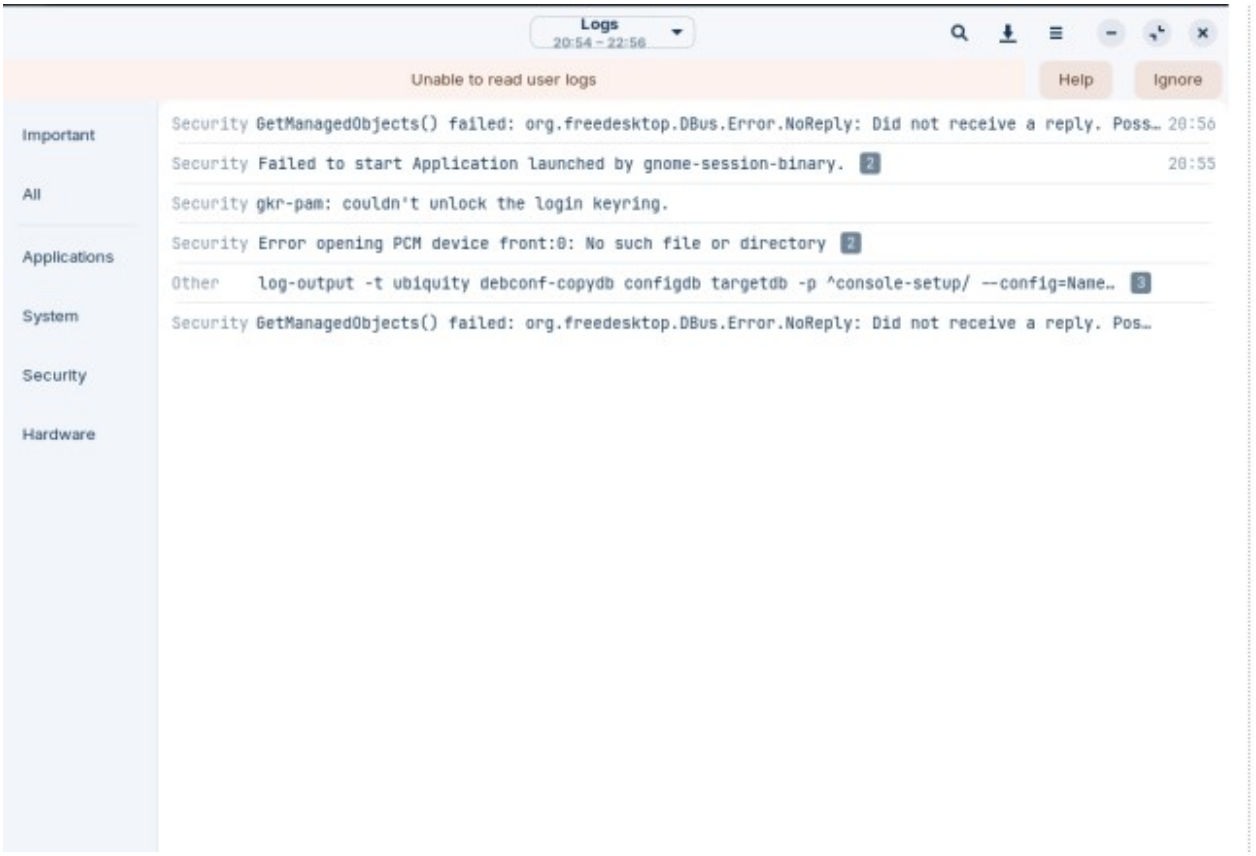
Fonts (Font viewer)



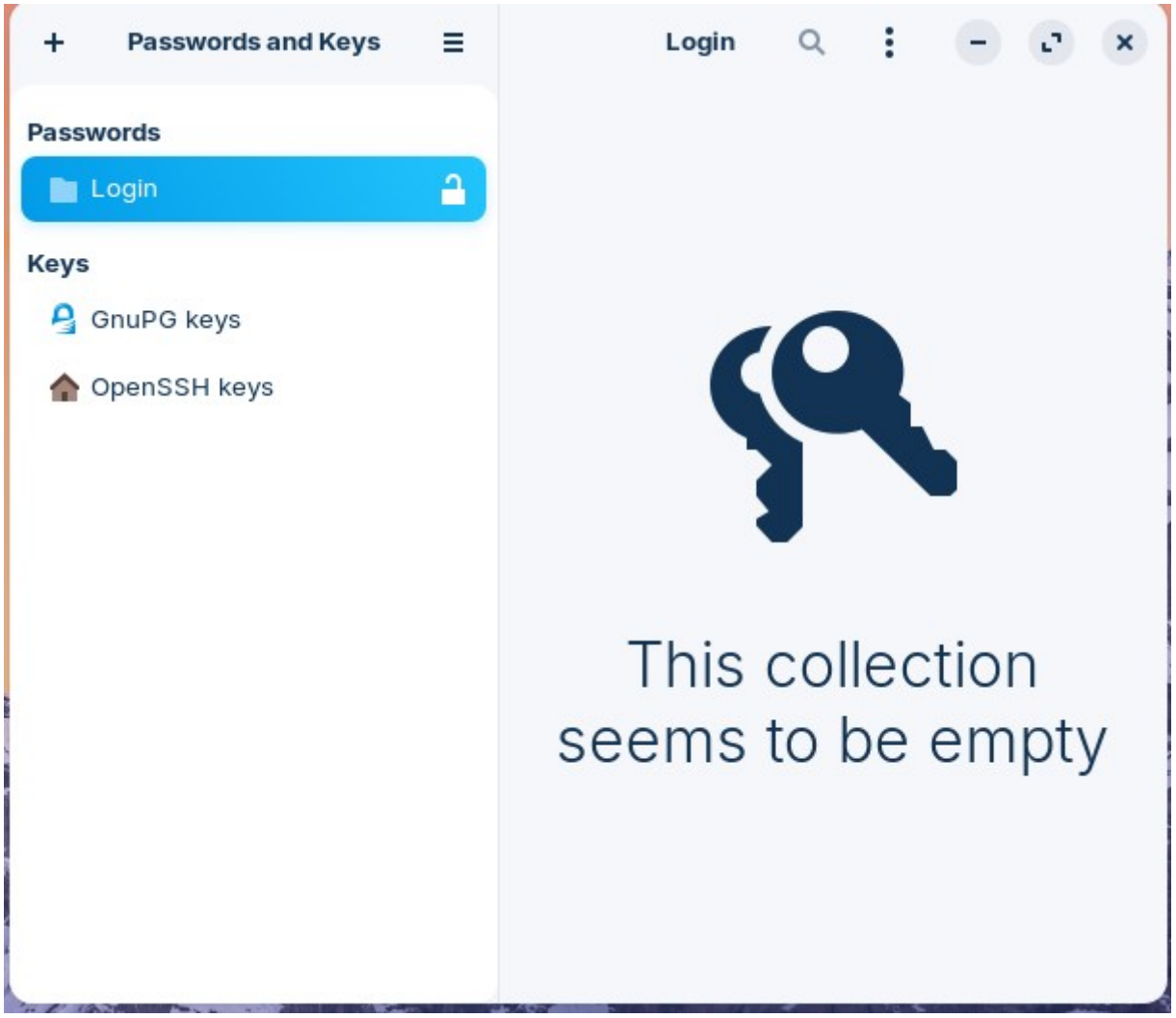
Help - This launches an interactive help guide. My only criticism is that it is basically a Gnome guide which does not reflect the Zorin Desktop Environment which is my only criticism - that is why I made the Unofficial Manuals for Zorin 12 and Zorin 15.

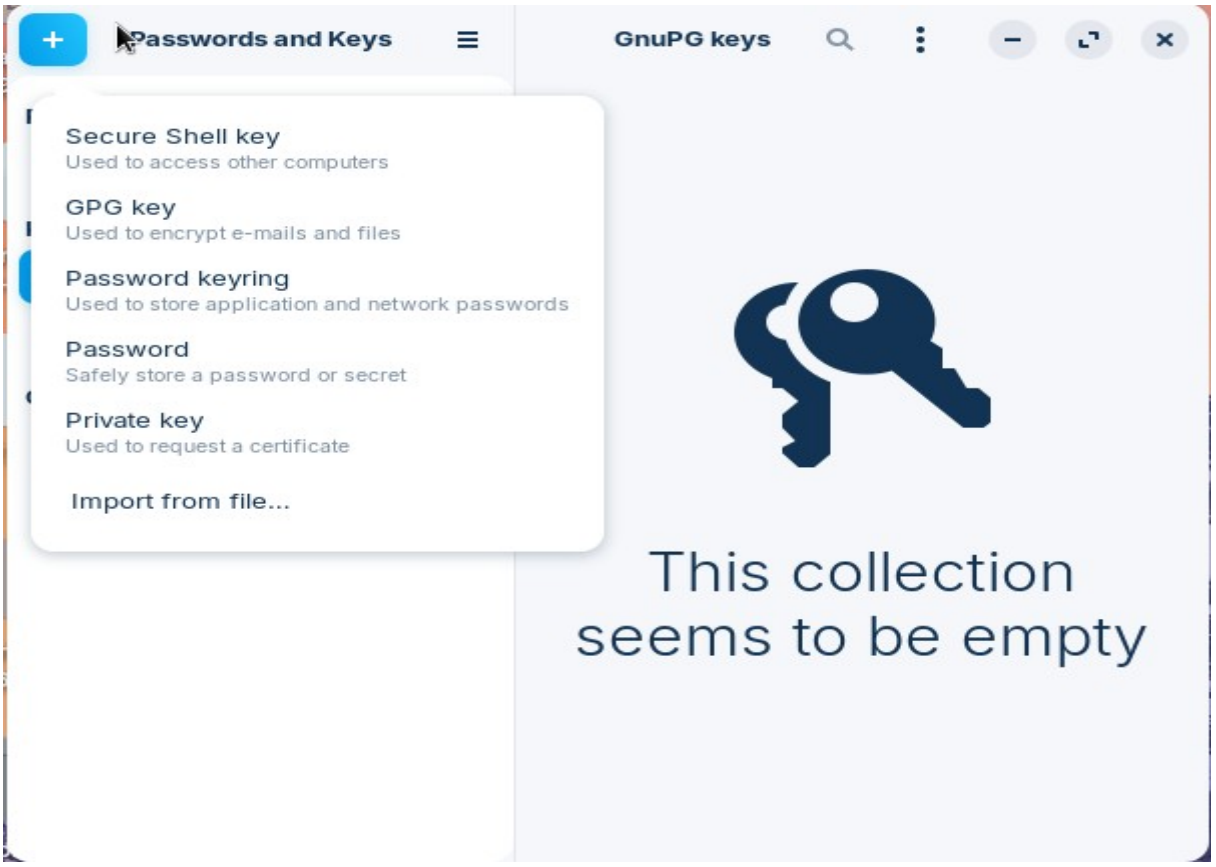


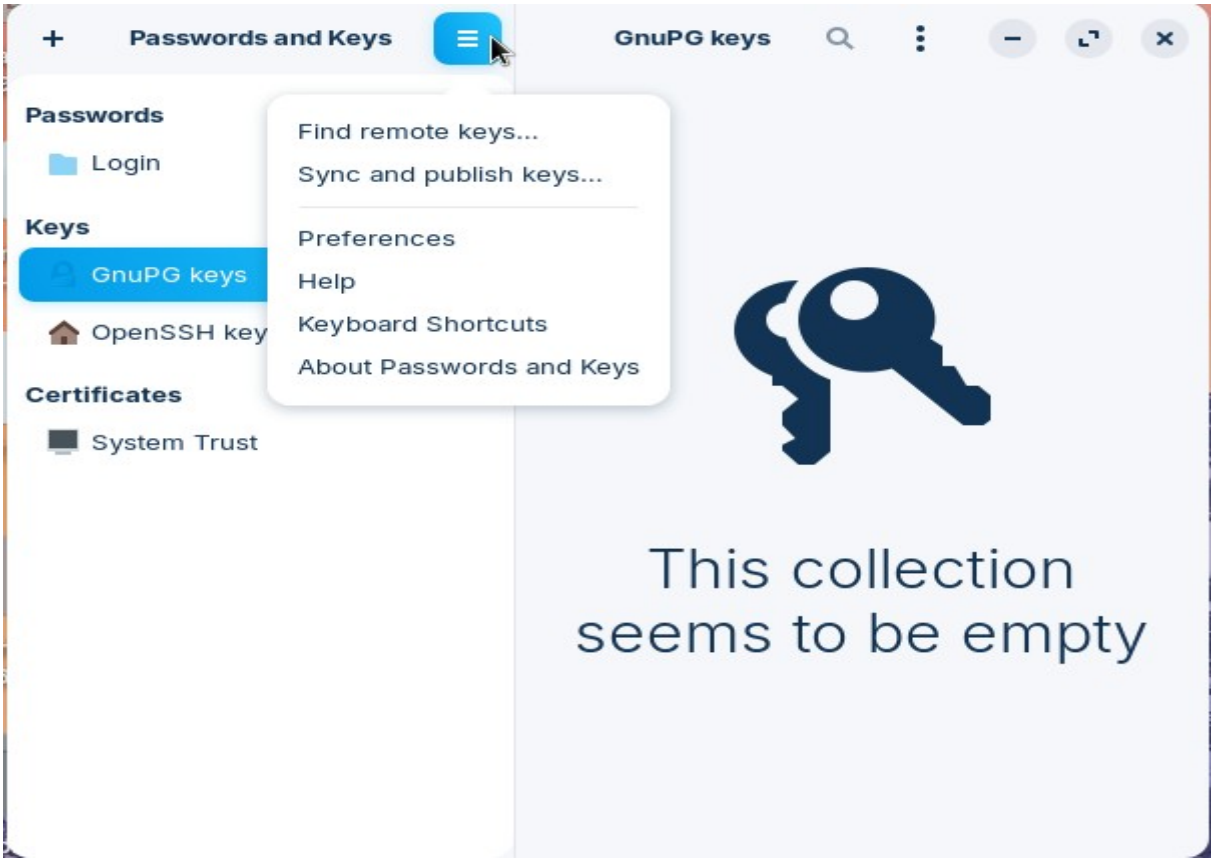
Logs - a useful utility, telling you of any errors that might be in the system. Here is a screenshot from the VM I created in order to create this Manual:

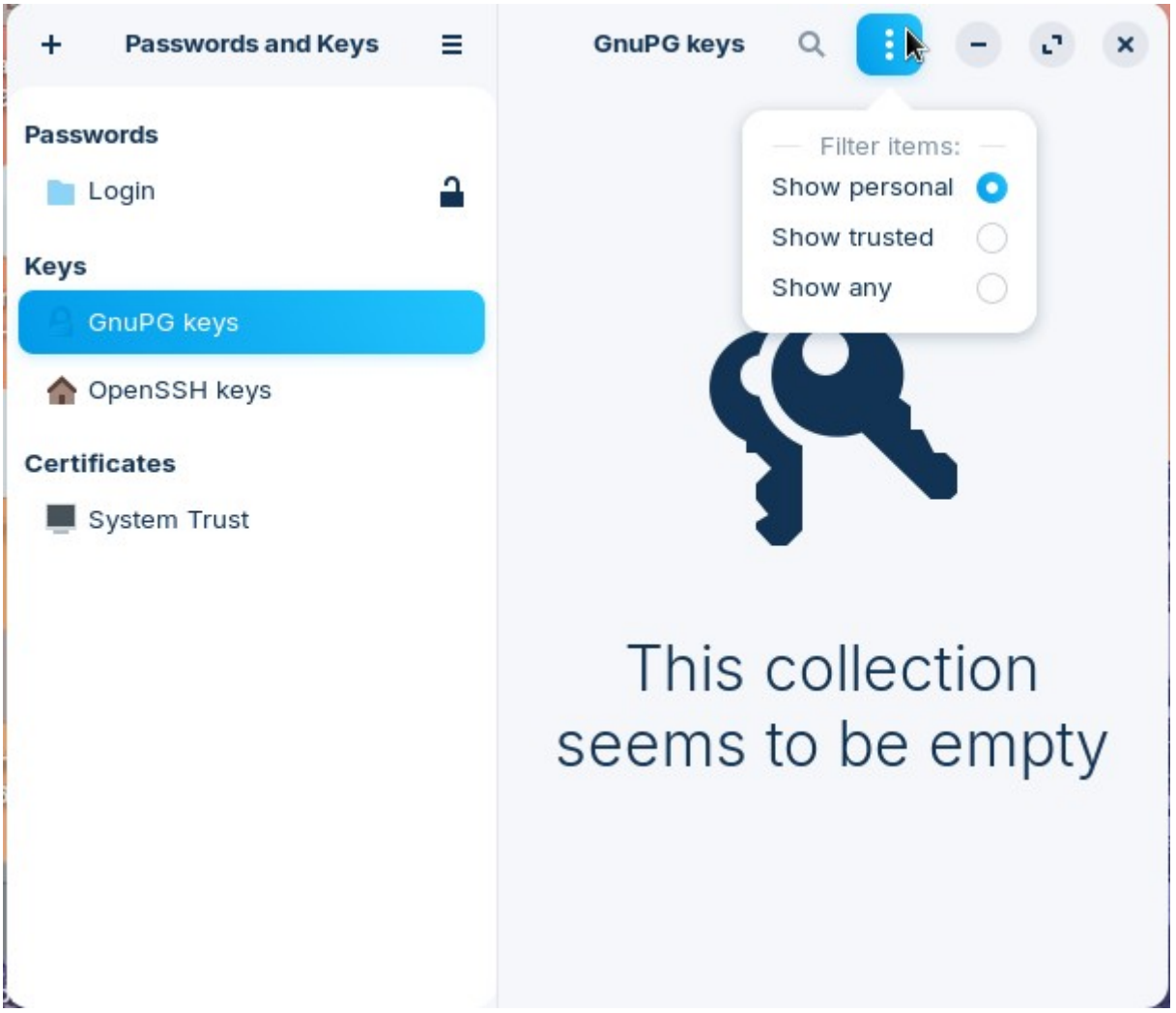


Passwords and Keys - Seahorse by any other name! This utility is to help store your PGP keys and passwords. Never got my head round this!



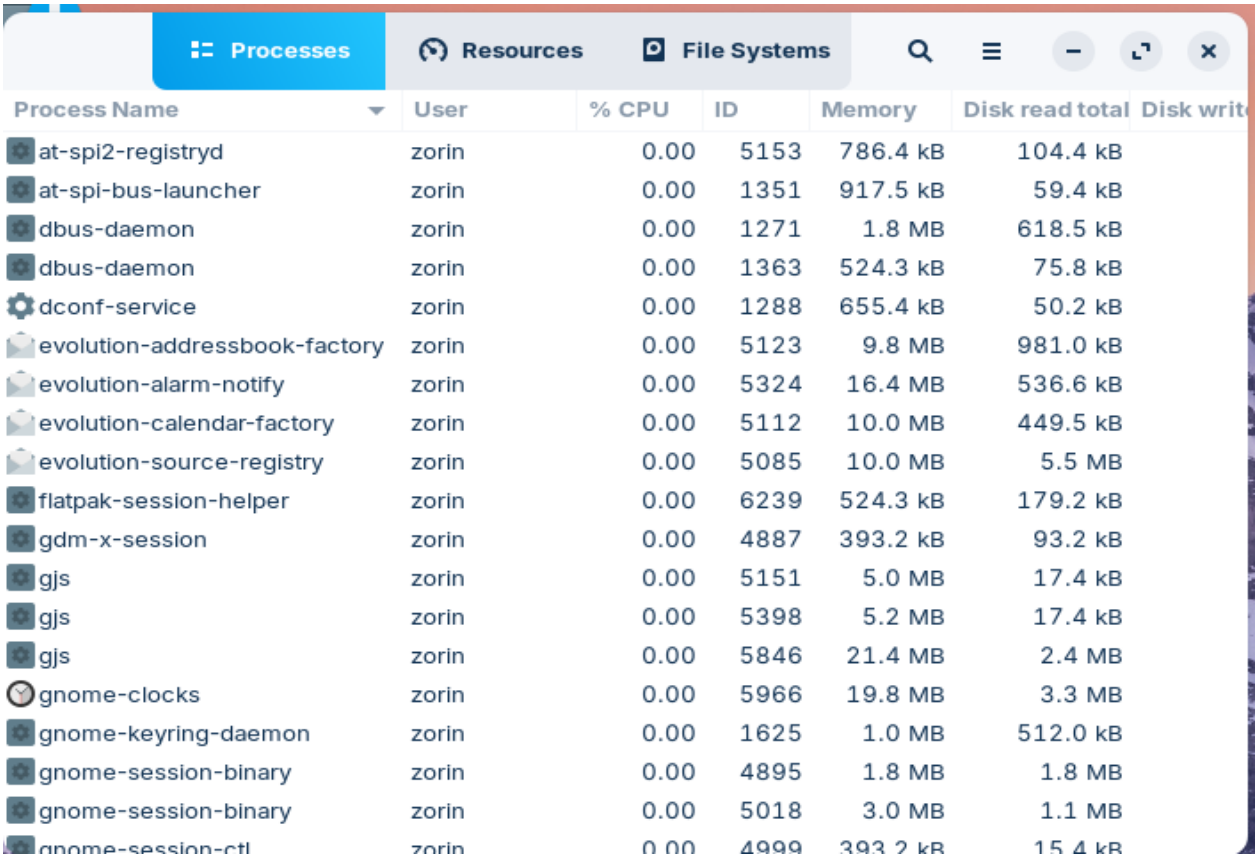

Passwords and Keys
GnuPG keys
Secure Shell key
Used to access other computers
GPG key
Used to encrypt e-mails and files
Password keyring
Used to store application and network passwords
Password
Safely store a password or secret
Private key
Used to request a certificate
Import from file...
This collection seems to be empty


Passwords and Keys
GnuPG keys
Passwords
Login
Keys
GnuPG keys
OpenSSH key
Certificates
System Trust
Find remote keys...
Sync and publish keys...
Preferences
Help
Keyboard Shortcuts
About Passwords and Keys
This collection seems to be empty

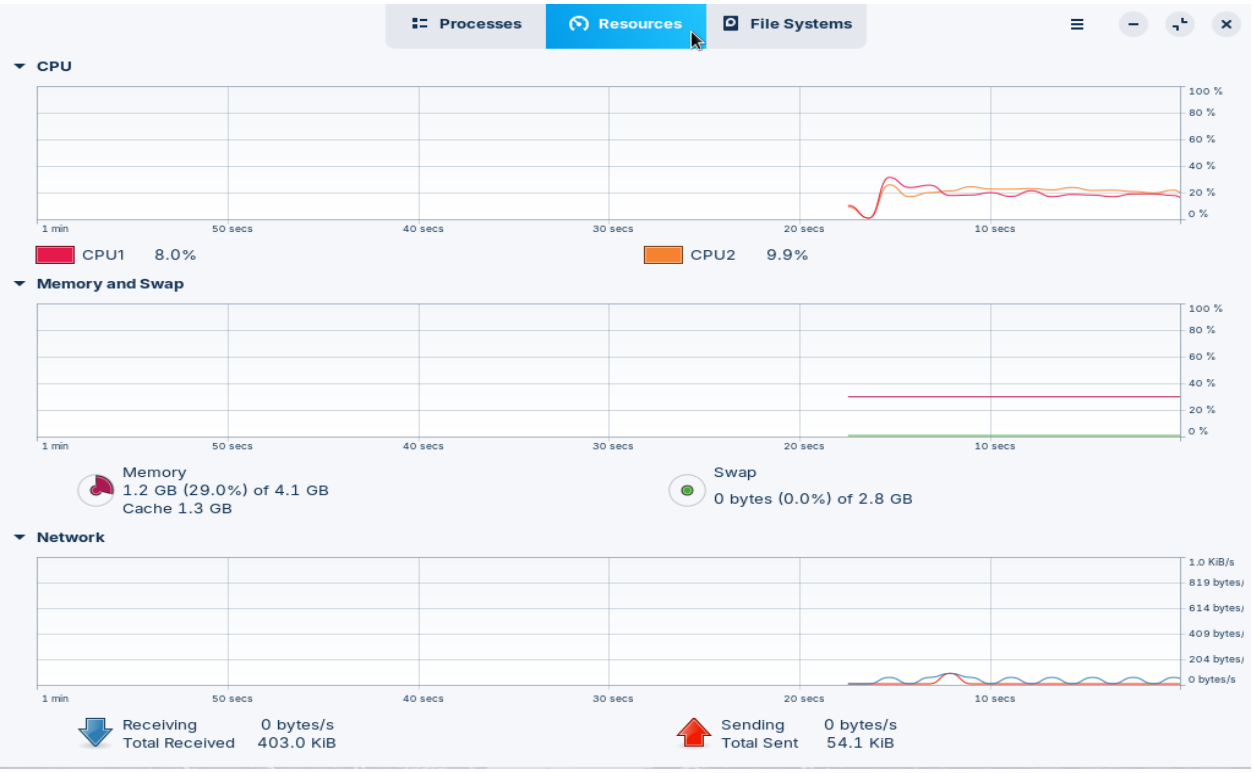

Passwords and Keys
GnuPG keys
Passwords
Login
Keys
GnuPG keys
OpenSSH keys
Certificates
System Trust
Filter items:
Show personal
Show trusted
Show any
This collection seems to be empty

System Monitor - this is the GNU/Linux equivalent of Task Manager in that other OS!:

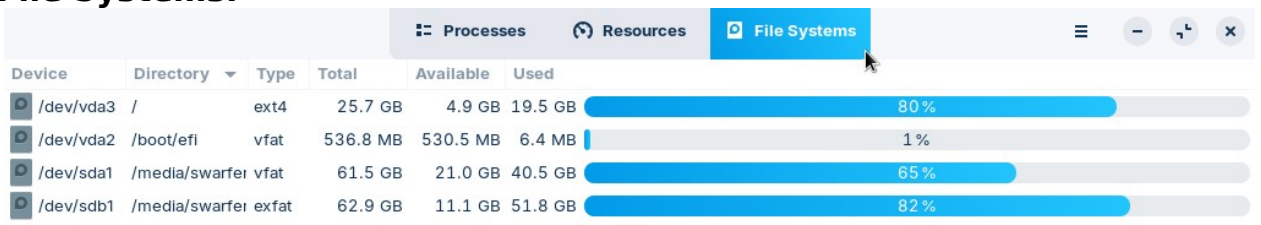
Processes:



Resources:



File Systems:

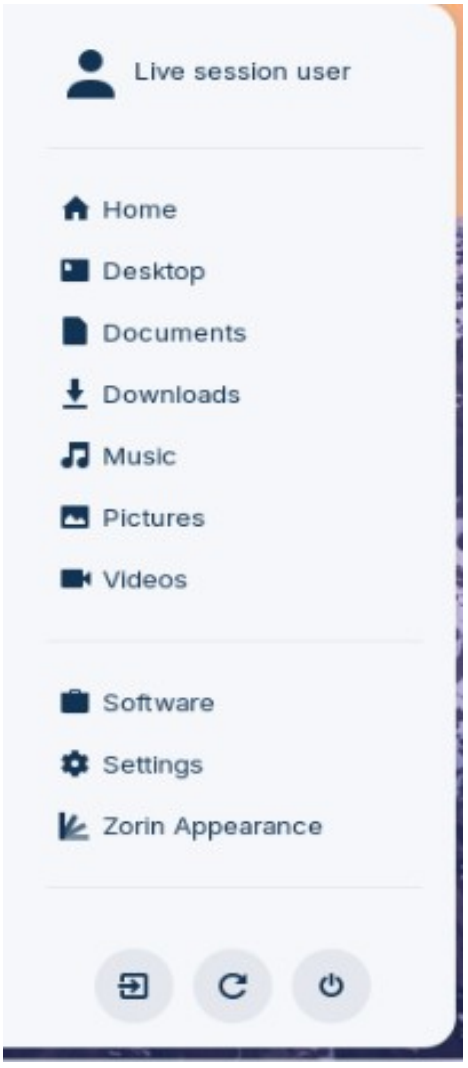


Terminal - The end of the line by any other name! I gest of course!

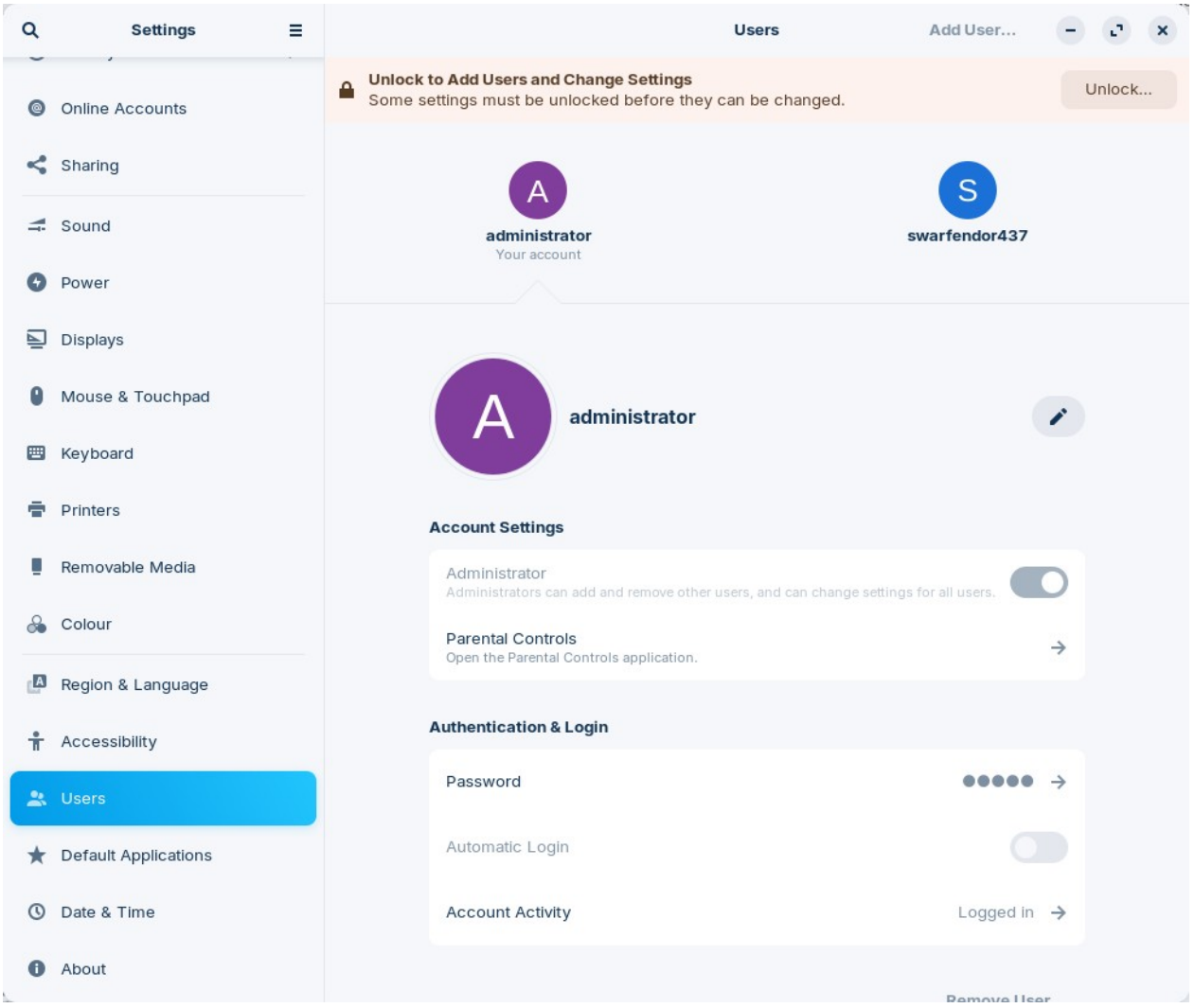


4. Live session user.

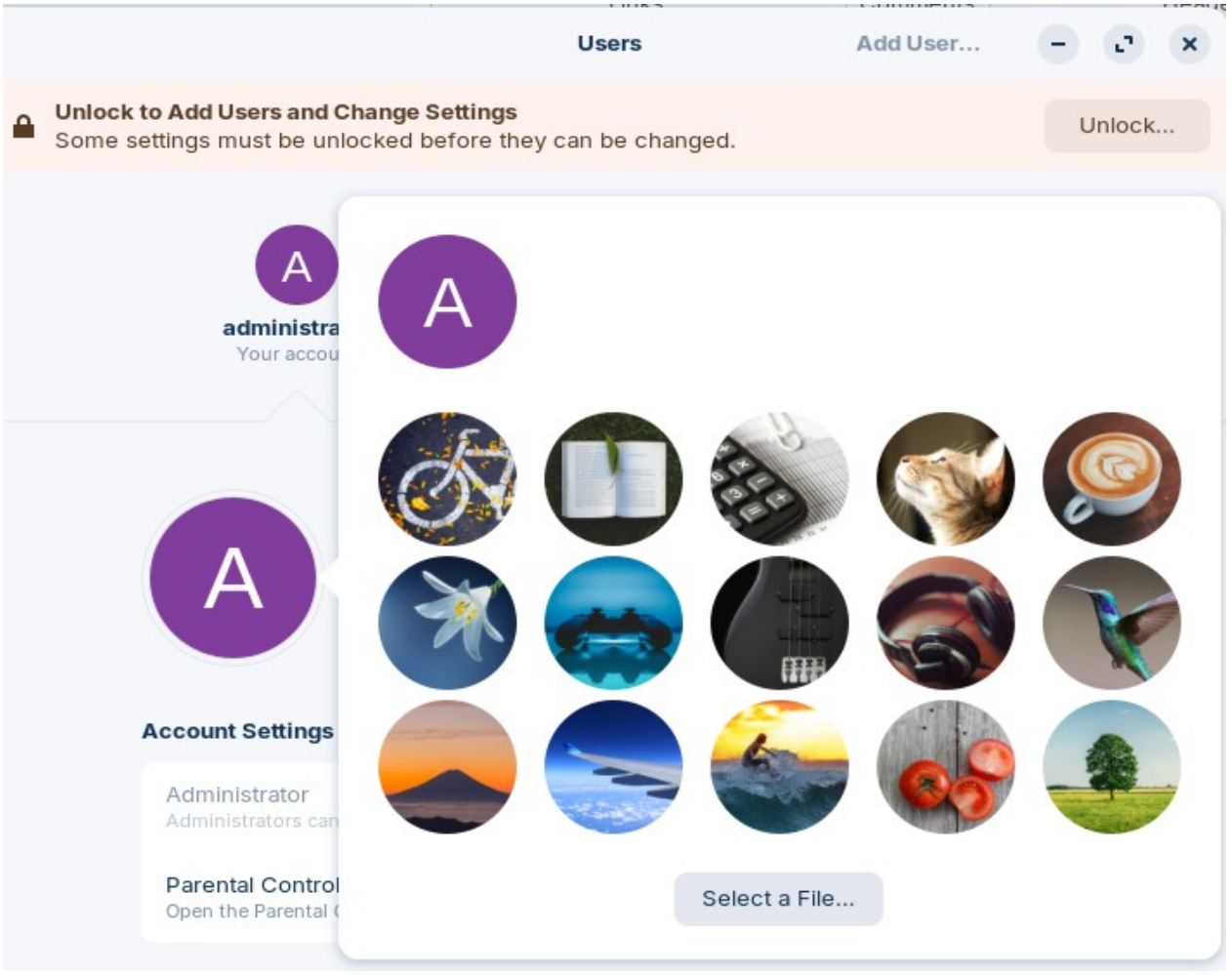
If you run Zorin 17 in Live Mode, then it will show your user name as ‘**Live session user’**.



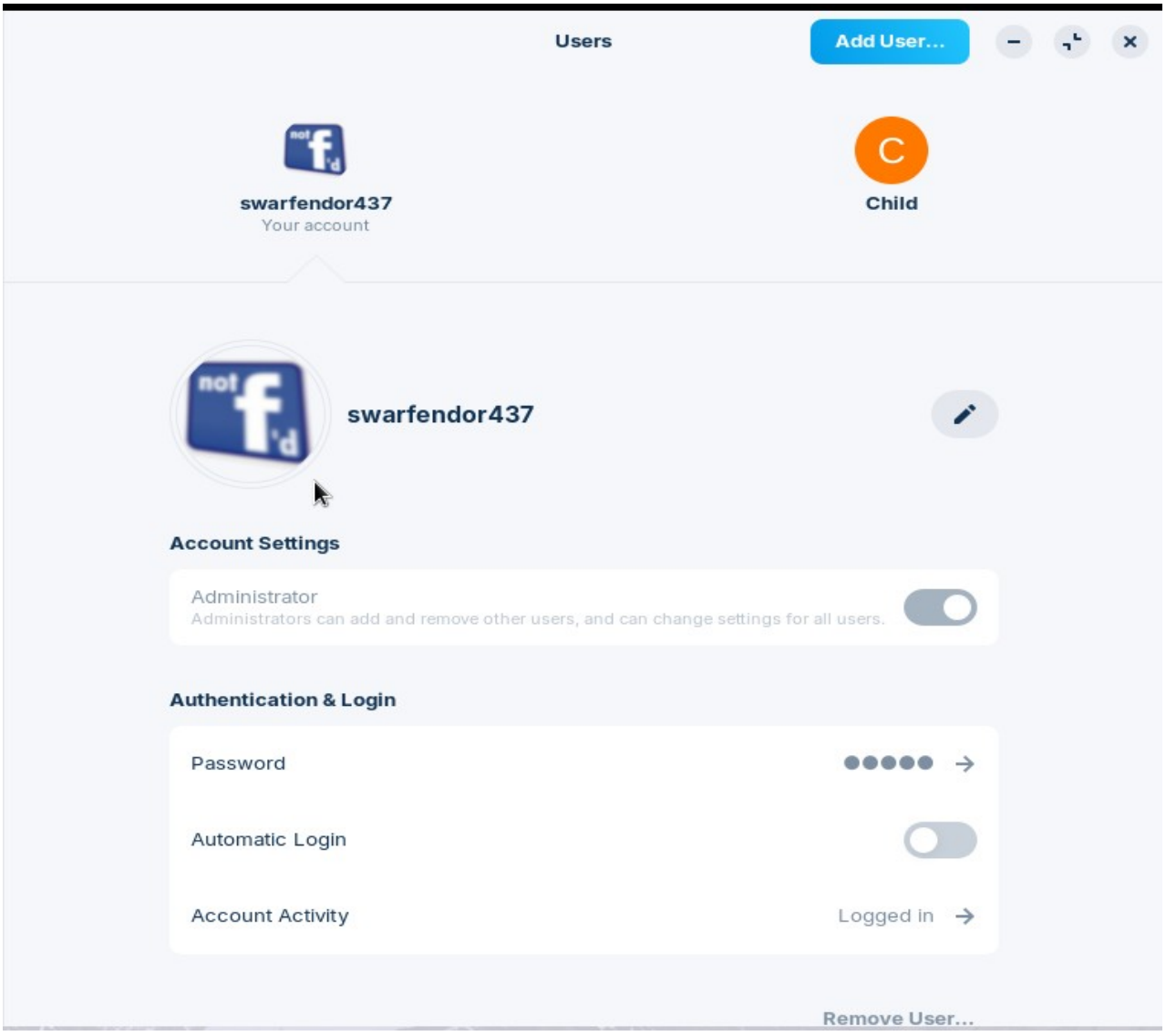
If you left click the **User** part of the menu, this opens up the **Users** section of **Settings**. In live mode it will show no users found, but on an installed version it shows all the Users of the system:



If you click on the account’s avatar, you have an option to change the one automatically created, which shows the first letter of the User in a circle to something else, either ones supplied by Zorin, or use of a file from you computer (click on the ‘Select a File …’ button):



Here’s mine:



If you select the ‘pen/cil’ icon to the right of the name, an editable box appears around the name to enable you to change the user name, but you will need to unlock **Users** by supplying the password for that user. If you have setup a separate **Administrator** account as I have done, you may need to enter that password if, as I have done, set myself up to be a **Standard** user.
Below the User Avatar and name is **Account Settings** - this is where you decide on whether the user is to have the power of an **Administrator** or **Standard** user. For increased security, when you are installing Zorin OS it is better to setup the **Administrator** account first before creating your own user which should be set as a **Standard** user. Always make sure you have two different passwords for **Adminstrator** and **Standard** user or having a separae

administrator account is pointless!

Below the account user’s status is:

Authentication & Login

The first field is **Password**. Here you can change your password to a new one. Below it is:

Automatic Login

This is for lazy people and can create issues when trying to update the system. Having said that, it should not be a problem if you have an **Administrator** account that needs to login, and you have a **Standard** user who doesn’t need to login. If you just have one user for the System and have autologin enabled, problems will occur when you need to update the system and applications which usually require the password of the account with **Administrator** privileges. The other aspect of this is that you are reducing the security of your computer by allowing anyone to access your personal data.

Account Activity

This let’s you see who is logged in. Left clicking **Account Activity** shows a log of account activity, showing Dates and Times when a Session Started and when a Session Ended.

Remove User

To be used with caution - you don’t want to remove someone in error!

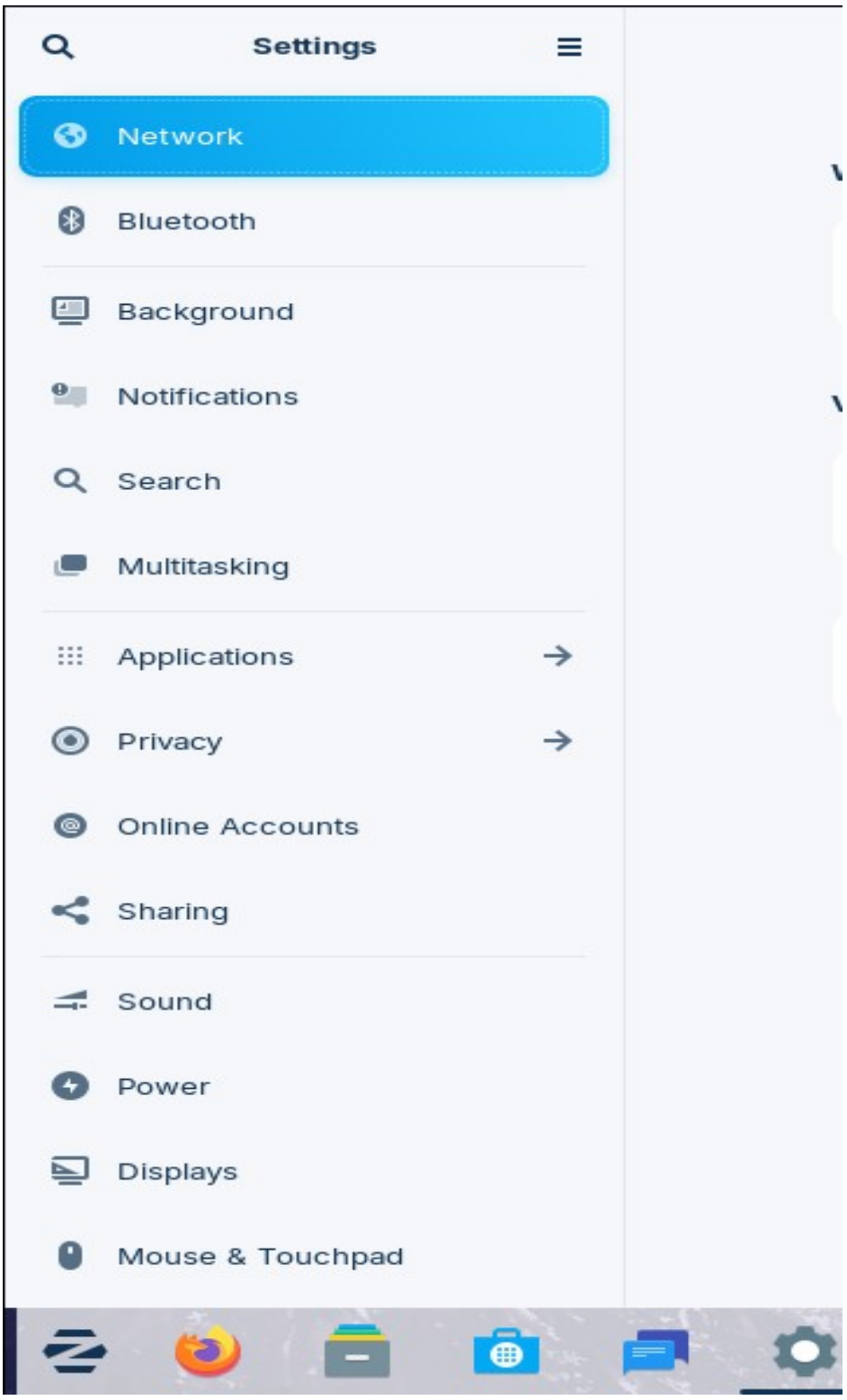
Software - This has already been covered (see Page 26)

5. Settings:

This is where you are able to make a host of settings, related to **hardware** such as **Network, Bluetooth** (if present), **Sound, Displays** (Monitors), **Printers, Removable Media**.

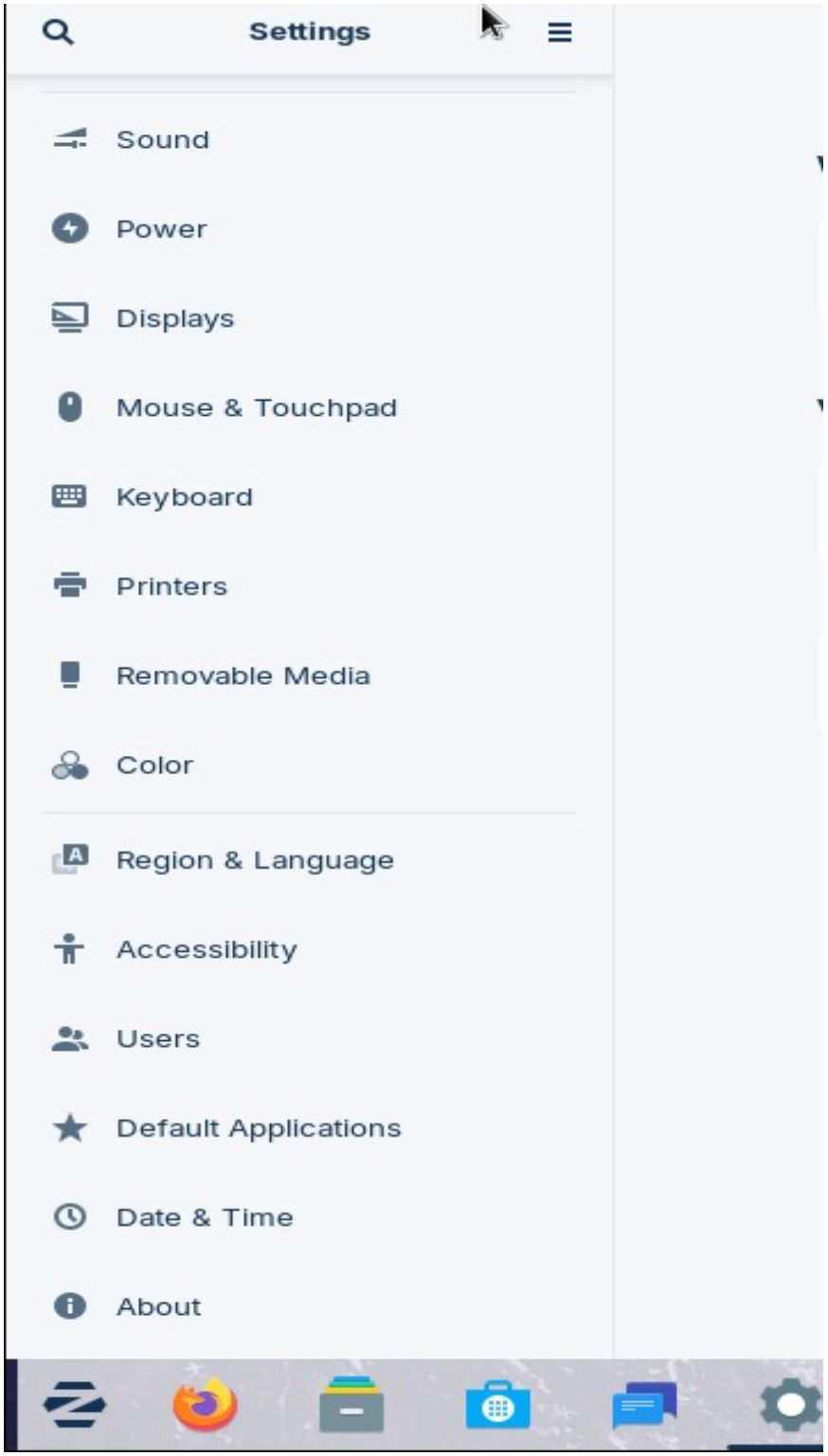
Software elements include **Background** (Desktop Wallpaper/Solid Colours/Picture choice from Pictures folder), **Notifications** (/Do not disturb), **Search** (function/criteria - what to include, what not to), **Multitasking** (seeing what applications you have open (**Activities overview** options, if you wish to have it), **Applications** (Integration of the application that uses system features is by default turned on, i.e., **Notifications**, can either be on or off for each application) and below it you are notified of what the **Default handlers** are, i.e., Types of files and links that the application opens.

So let’s start with a screenshot of **Settings** (top half):



I have just taken a screenshot of the left pane for ease of reading, more detail of each section to follow. Next the bottom-half of **Settings**.

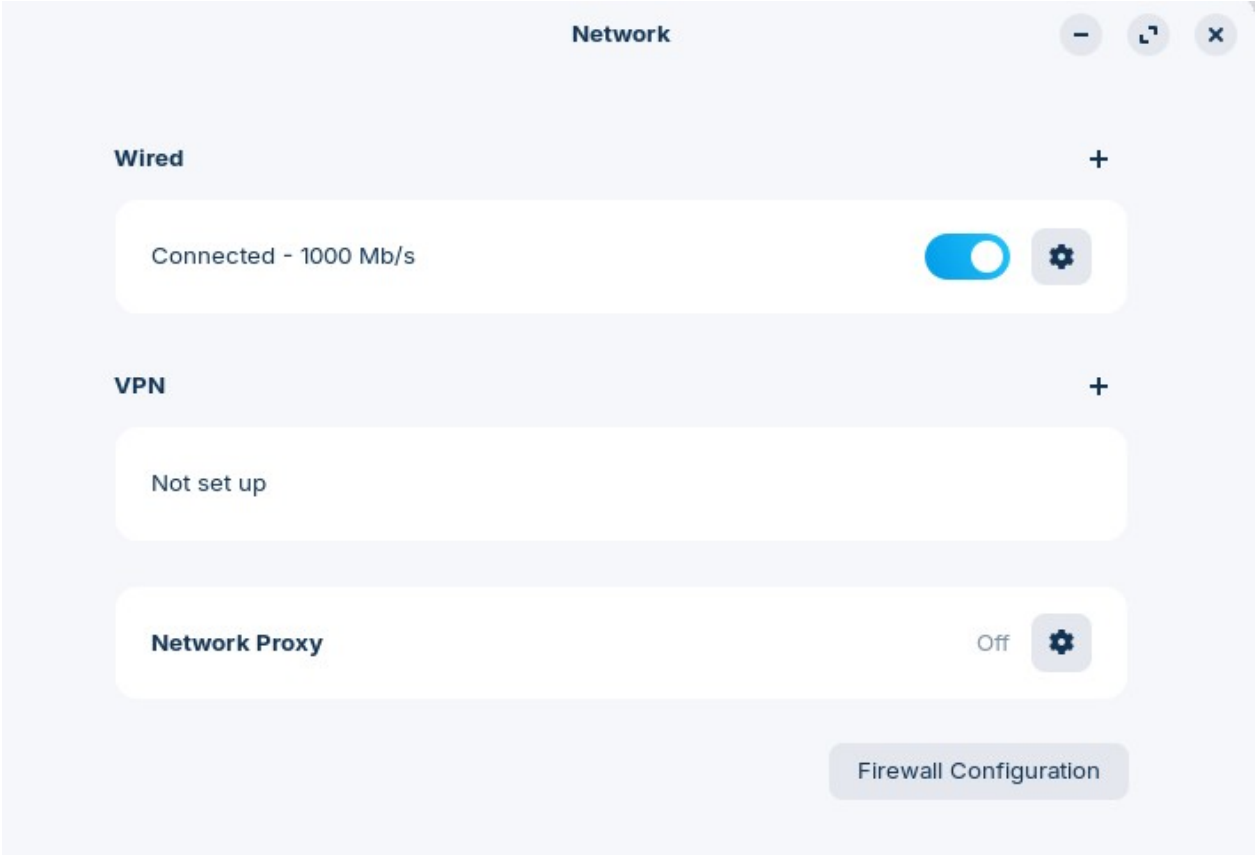
Settings (bottom half)



Now for each section of **Settings**.

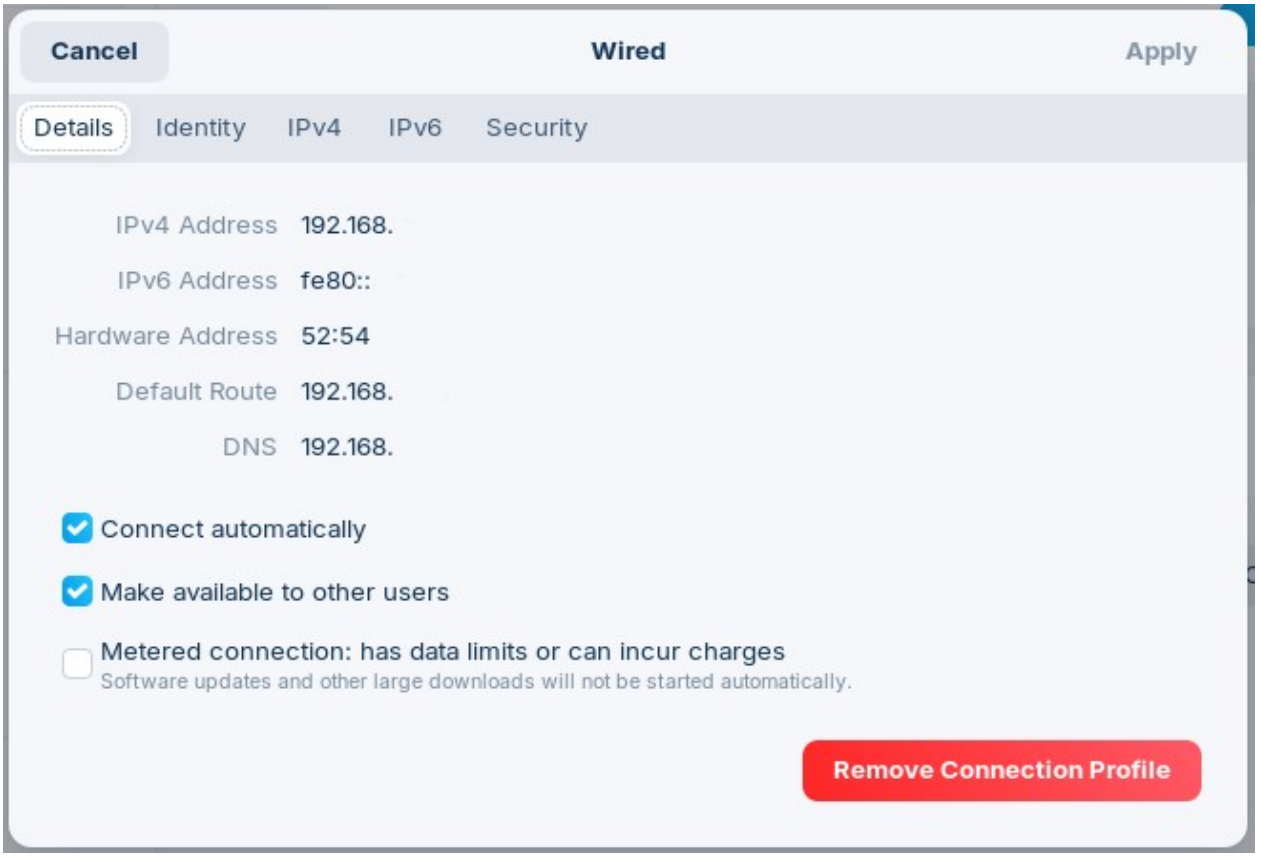
Network

This is the section that should autopopulate, depending on your current Network configuration, whether it is via Ethernet, WiFi or other connection method.

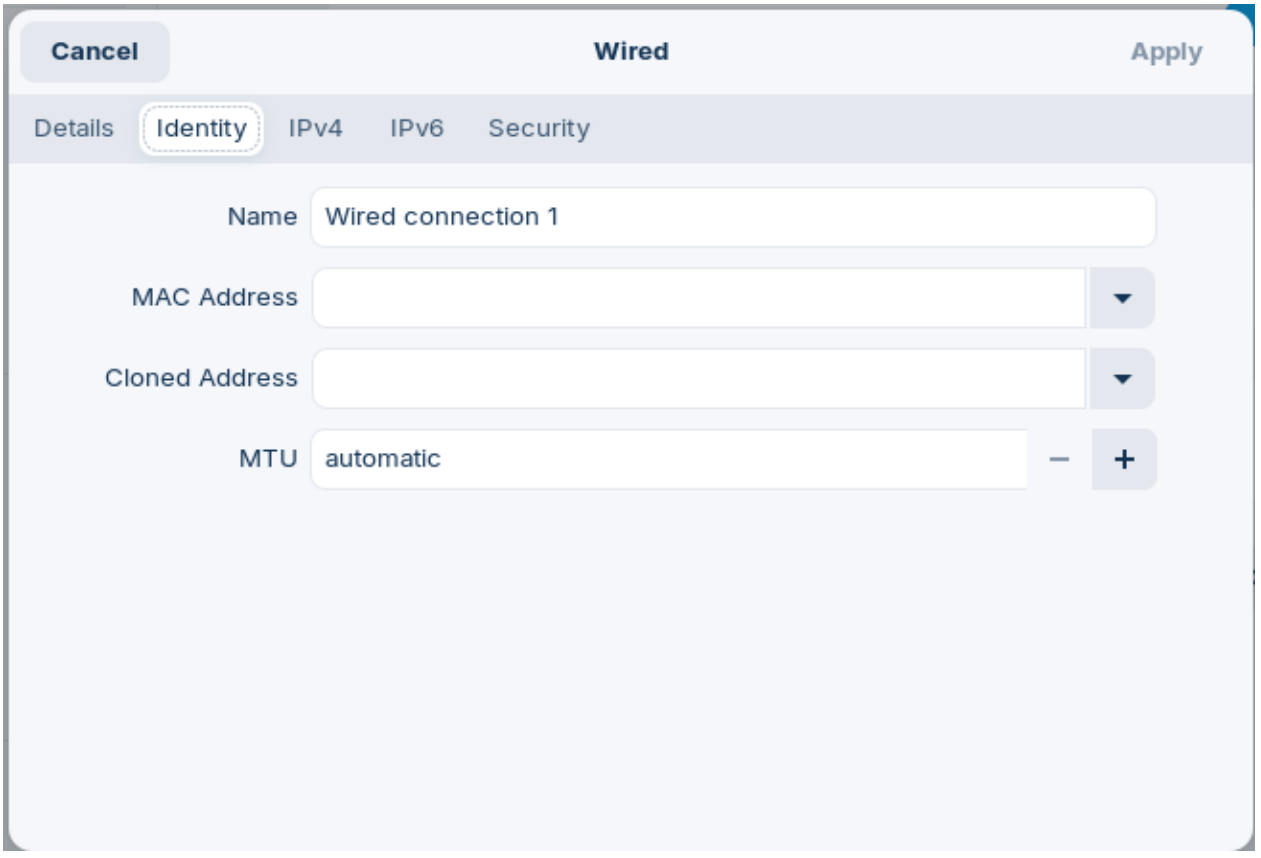


By default my system (and the VM that this screenshot was taken from) is via Ethernet. Clicking on the switch to disconnect is useful if you wish to search for items on an external storage device to prevent ransomware attack, or when backing up data or your system to an external device. The cog next to it shows connection details to the network/Internet, as shown on the following pages:

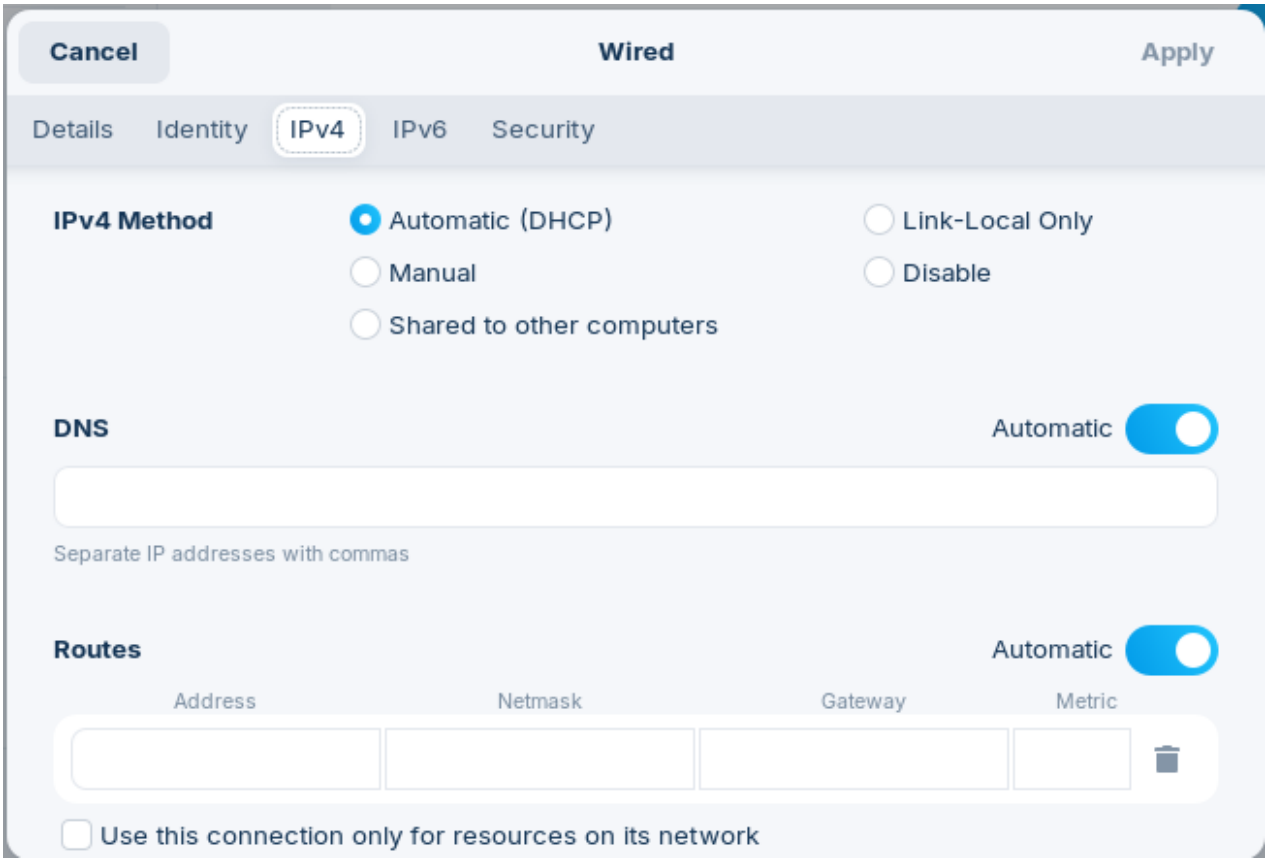
Details tab:



Identity tab:

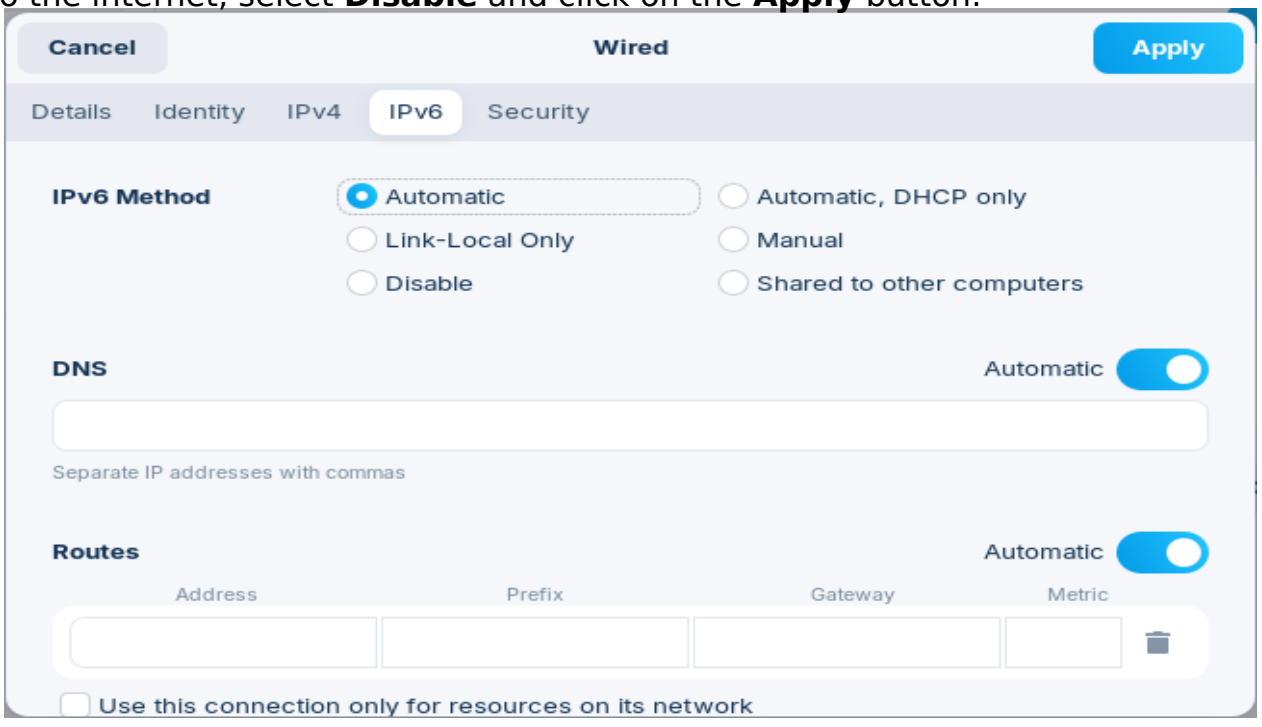


IPv4 tab:



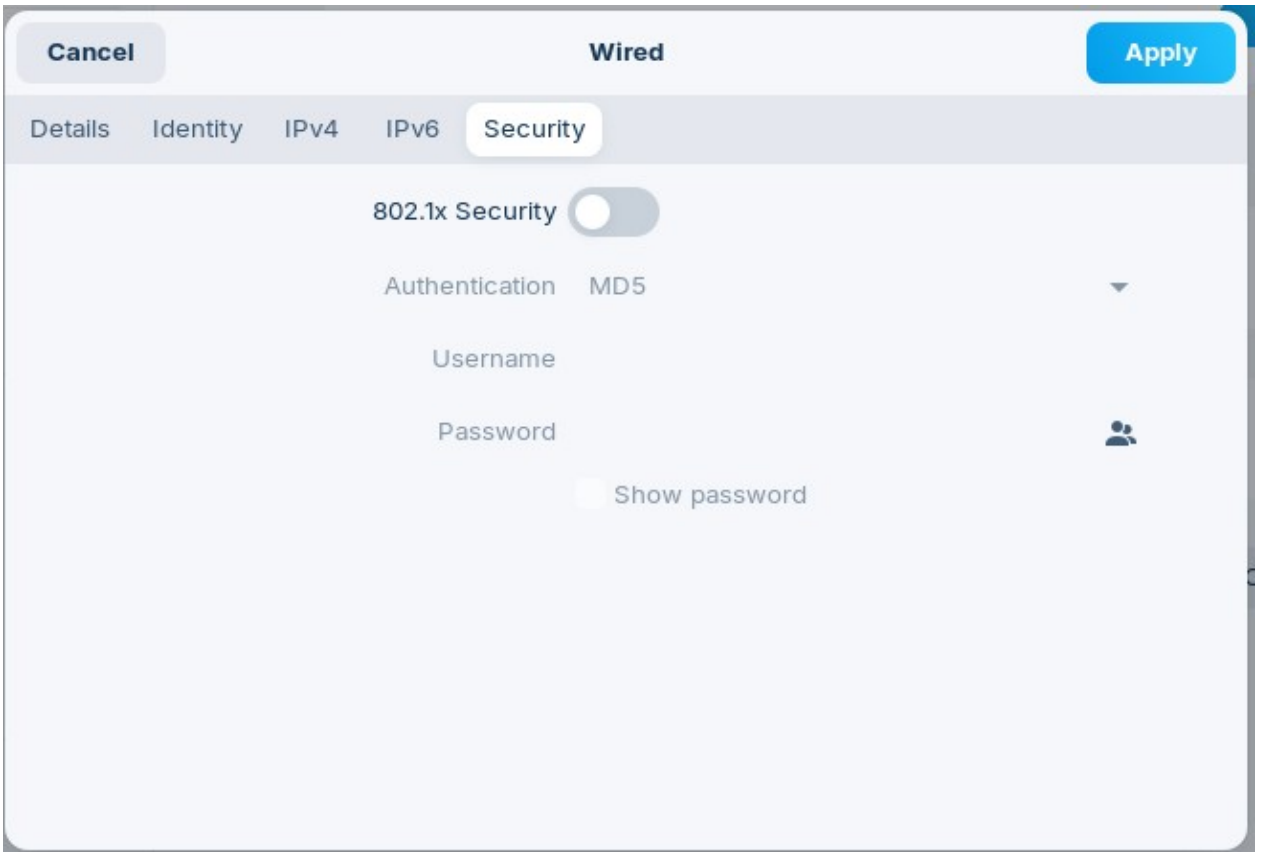
IPv6 tab:

Note under the IPv6 tab, this is set to automatic, if like me, you ISP (Internet Service Provider) does not support IPv6 and you are having issues connecting to the internet, select **Disable** and click on the **Apply** button.



Security tab:

The security tab and **802.1x Security** option is there for systems connected to a Corporate Server, so should not be turned on.

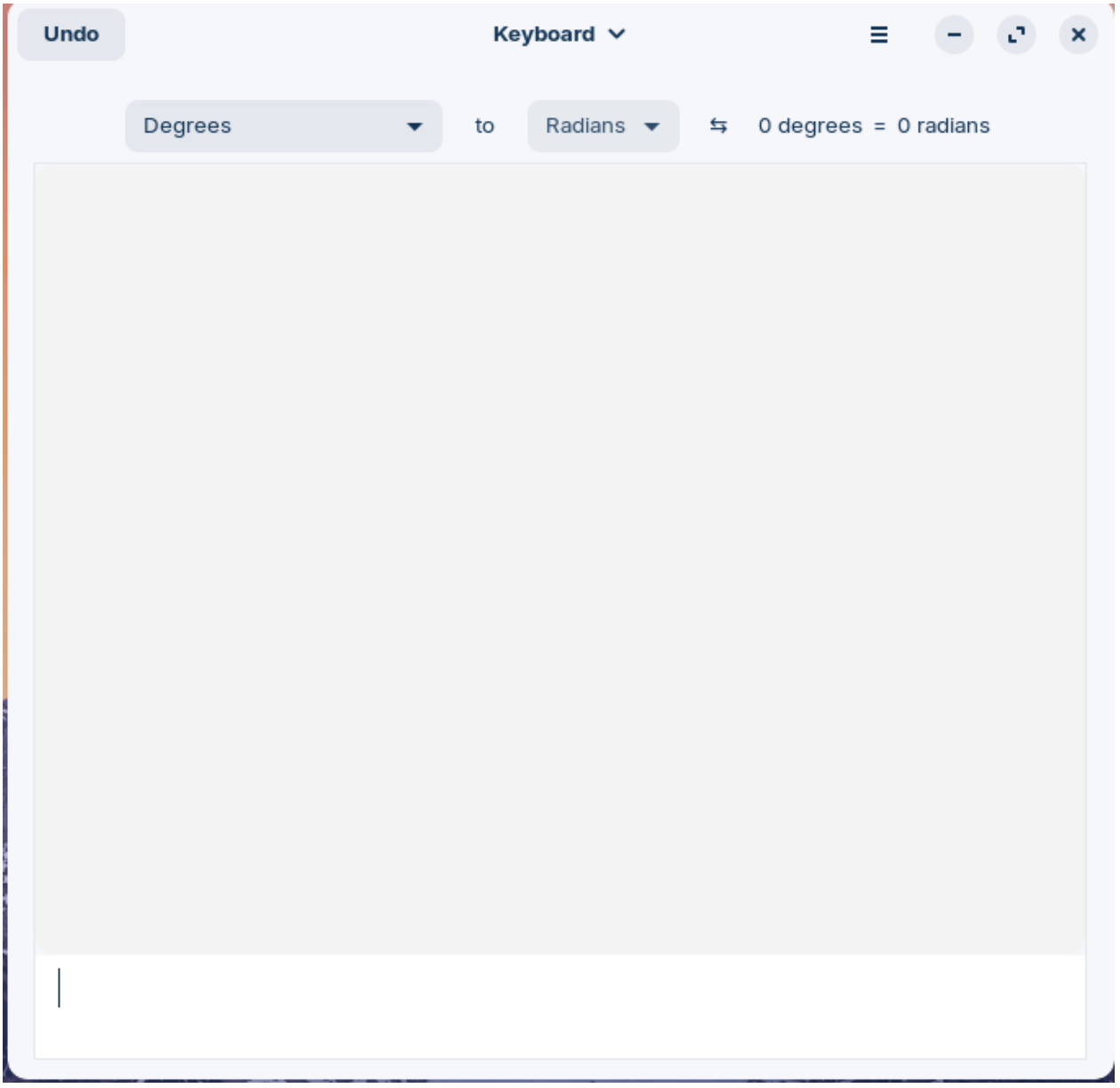


Network Proxy setting. Clicking on the cog reveals:

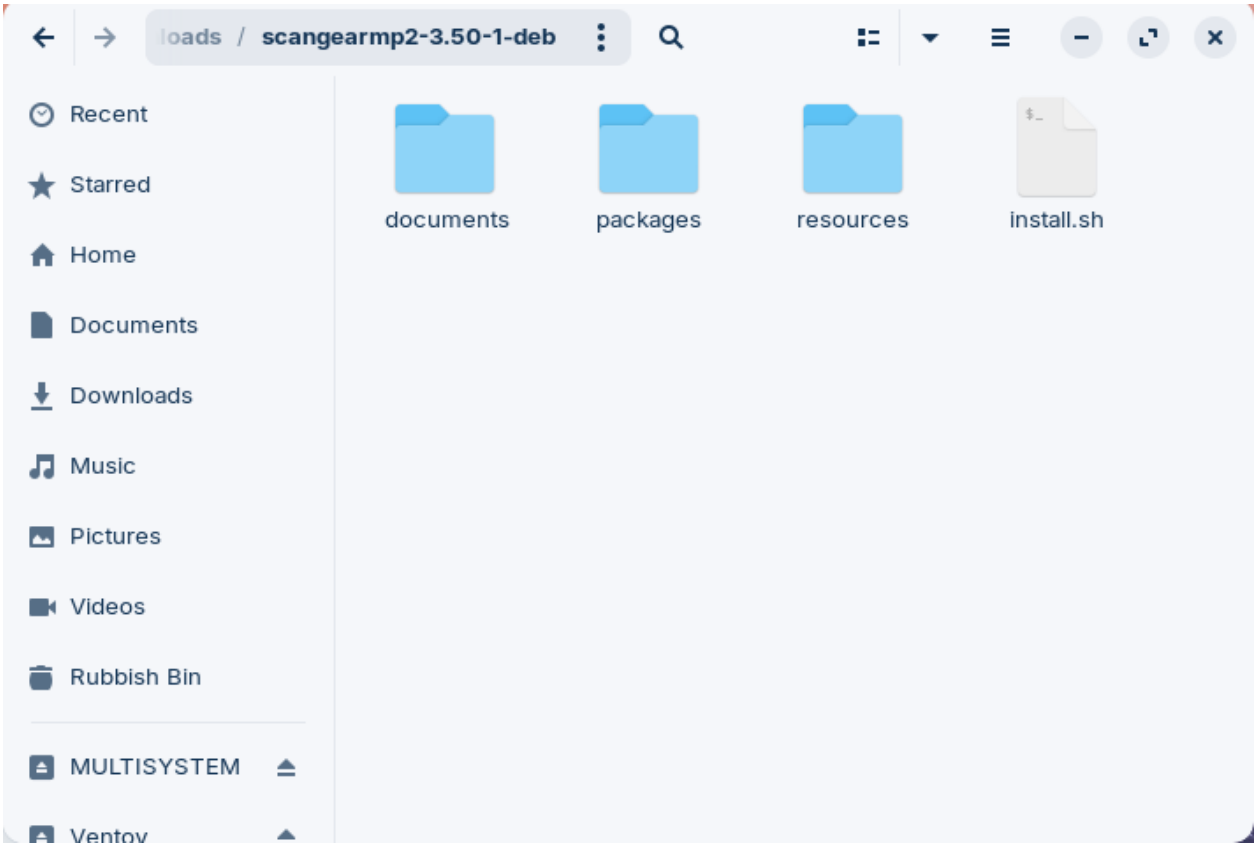


Disabled is the default setting for **Network Proxy**, and should not cause any issues unless of course you do use a **Network Proxy**.

Keyboard:

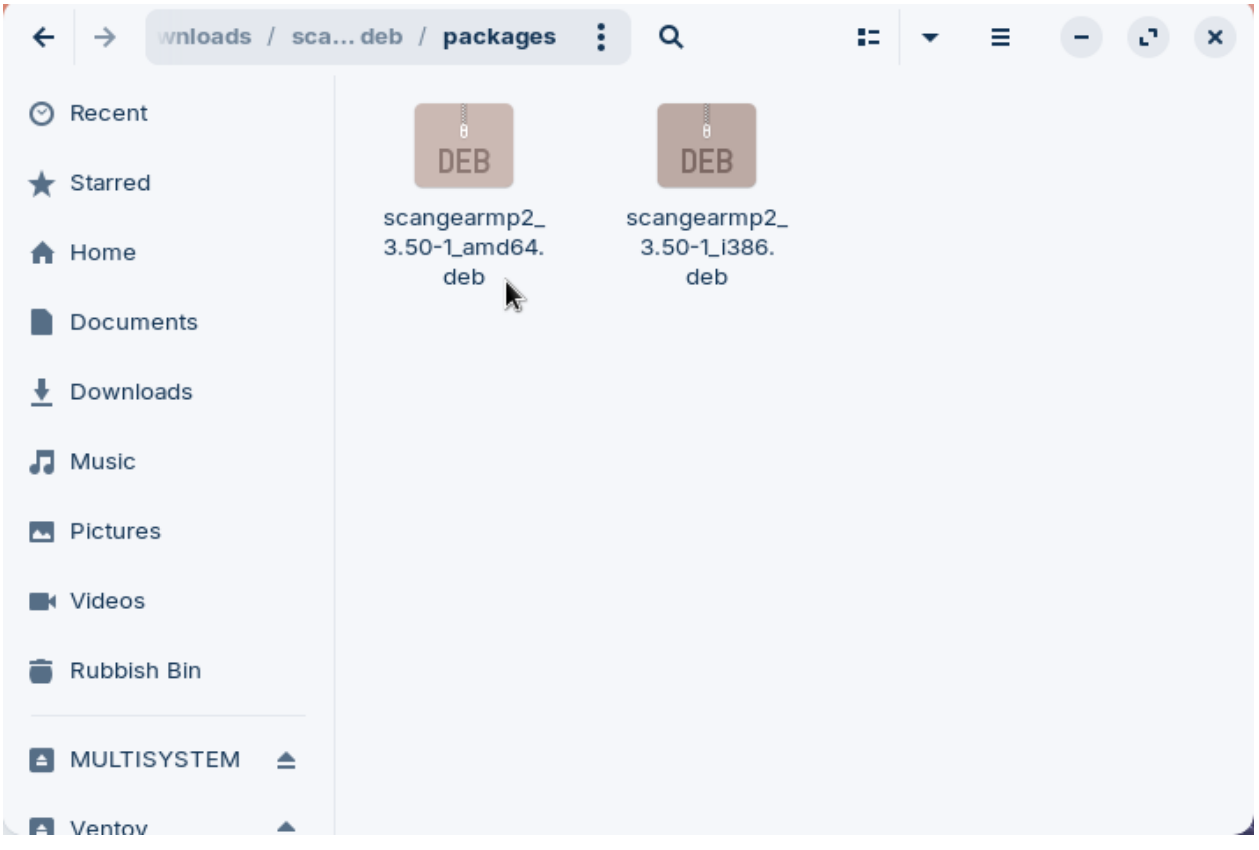


Open the extracted folder:

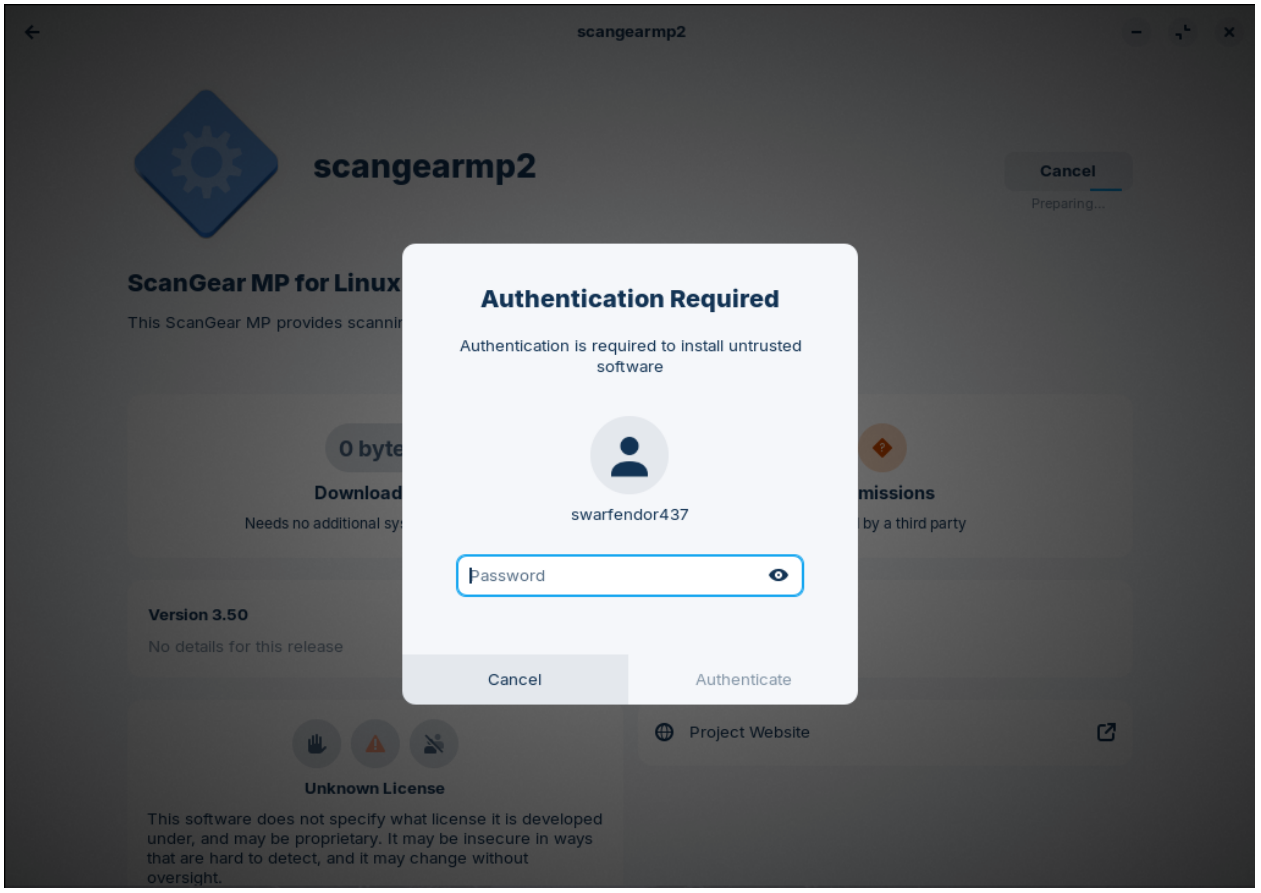


Next, open the subfolder, packages.

You need to install the amd64.deb package:

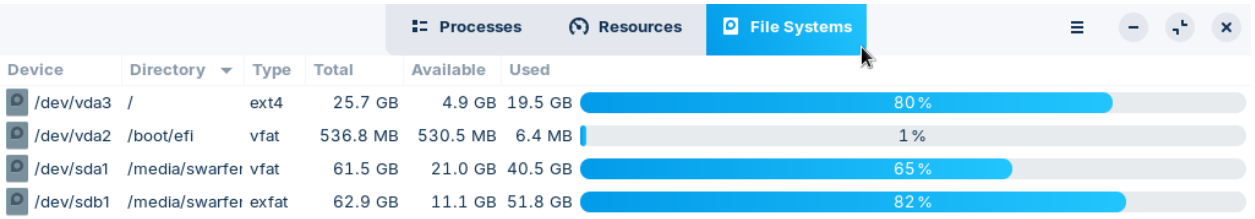


You will then be presented with the Authorisation window, which, depending on how you install Zorin will be your password if you are an Administrator, or the Administrator account password if you are a Standard user.



After installing, reboot your computer and launch Document Scanner. From the dropdown list you should choose eSCL Canon TS8100 series (USB) if connected to the computer. If an all-in-one device is on the network, then select the first option, Canon PIXMA TS8100 Series.

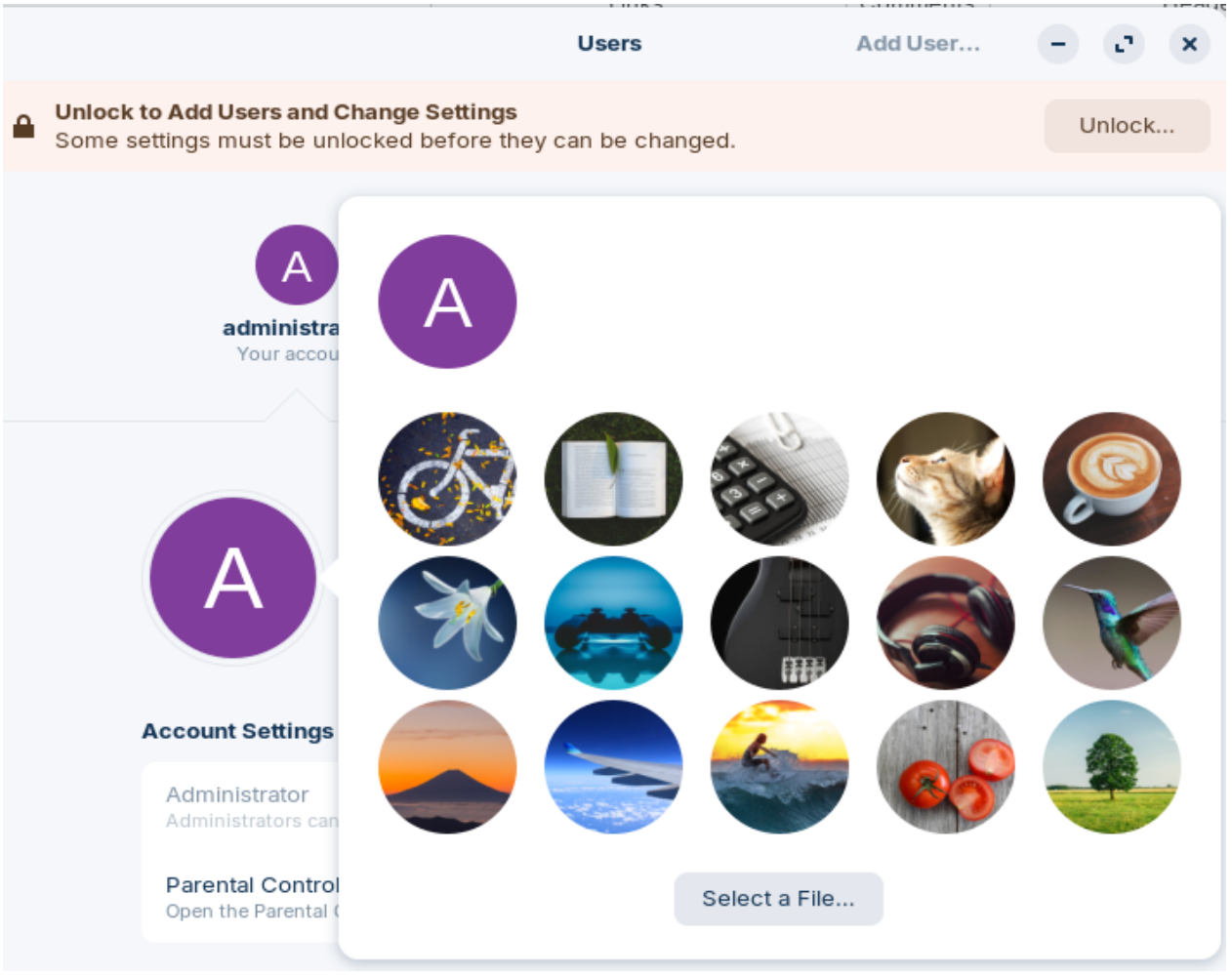
File Systems:



Terminal - The end of the line by any other name! I gest of course!



If you click on the account s avatar, you have an option to change the one automatically created, which shows the first letter of the User in a circle to something else, either ones supplied by Zorin, or use of a file from you computer (click on the Select a File & button):



Below the account user s status is:

Authentication & Login

The first field is Password. Here you can change your password to a new one. Below it is:

Automatic Login

This is for lazy people and can create issues when trying to update the system. Having said that, it should not be a problem if you have an Administrator account that needs to login, and you have a Standard user who doesn t need to login. If you just have one user for the System and have autologin enabled, problems will occur when you need to update the system and applications which usually require the password of the account with Administrator privileges. The other aspect of this is that you are reducing the security of your computer by allowing anyone to access your personal data.

Account Activity

This let s you see who is logged in. Left clicking Account Activity shows a log of account activity, showing Dates and Times when a Session Started and when a Session Ended.

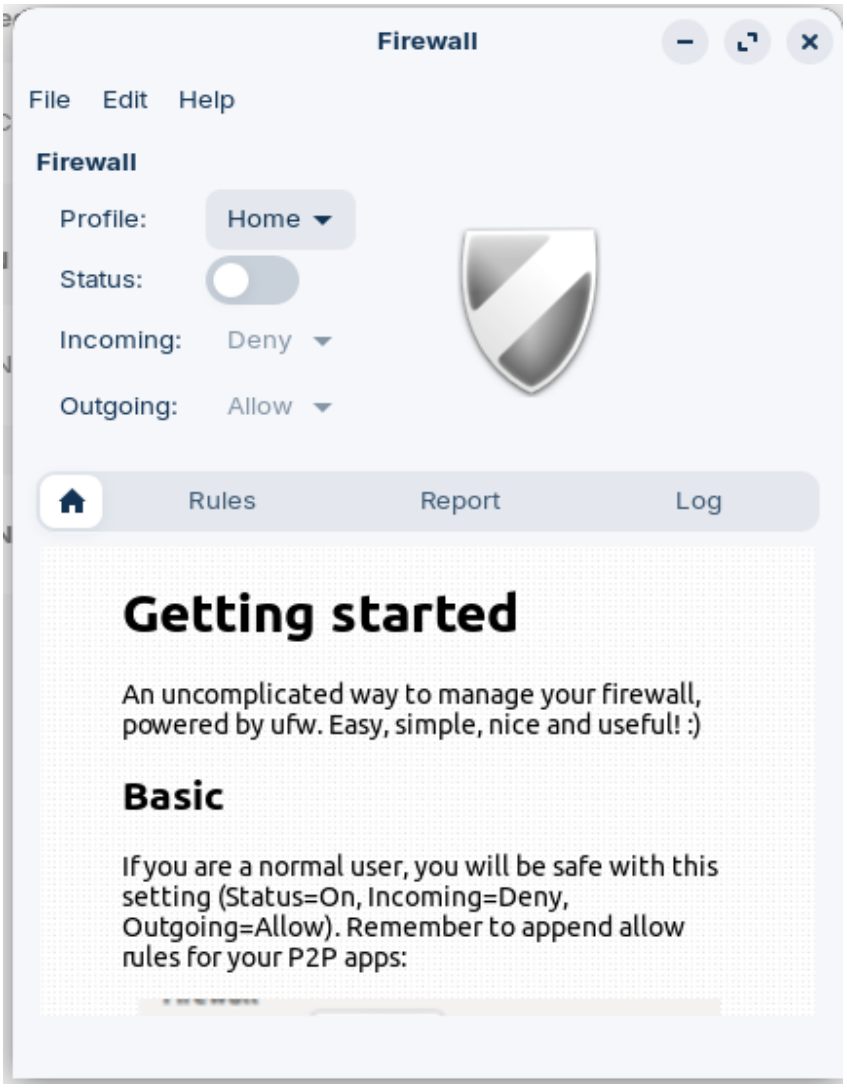
Remove User

To be used with caution - you don t want to remove someone in error!

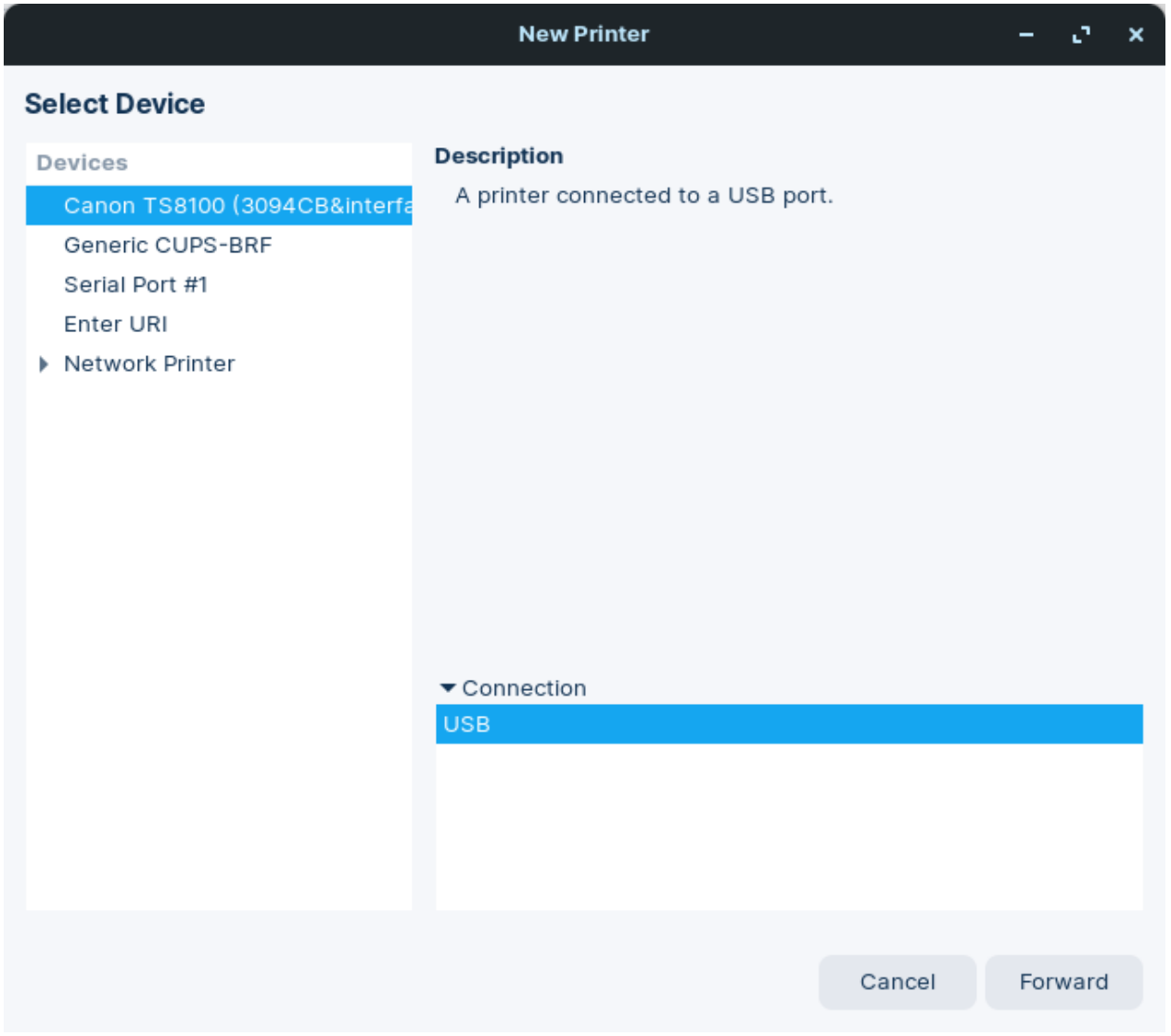
Firewall Configuration

This launches the Gnome Uncomplicated Firewall (Gufw) application. By default it is off - Turn it on!

Firewall is off in this image. Select the Status: switch to turn it on.

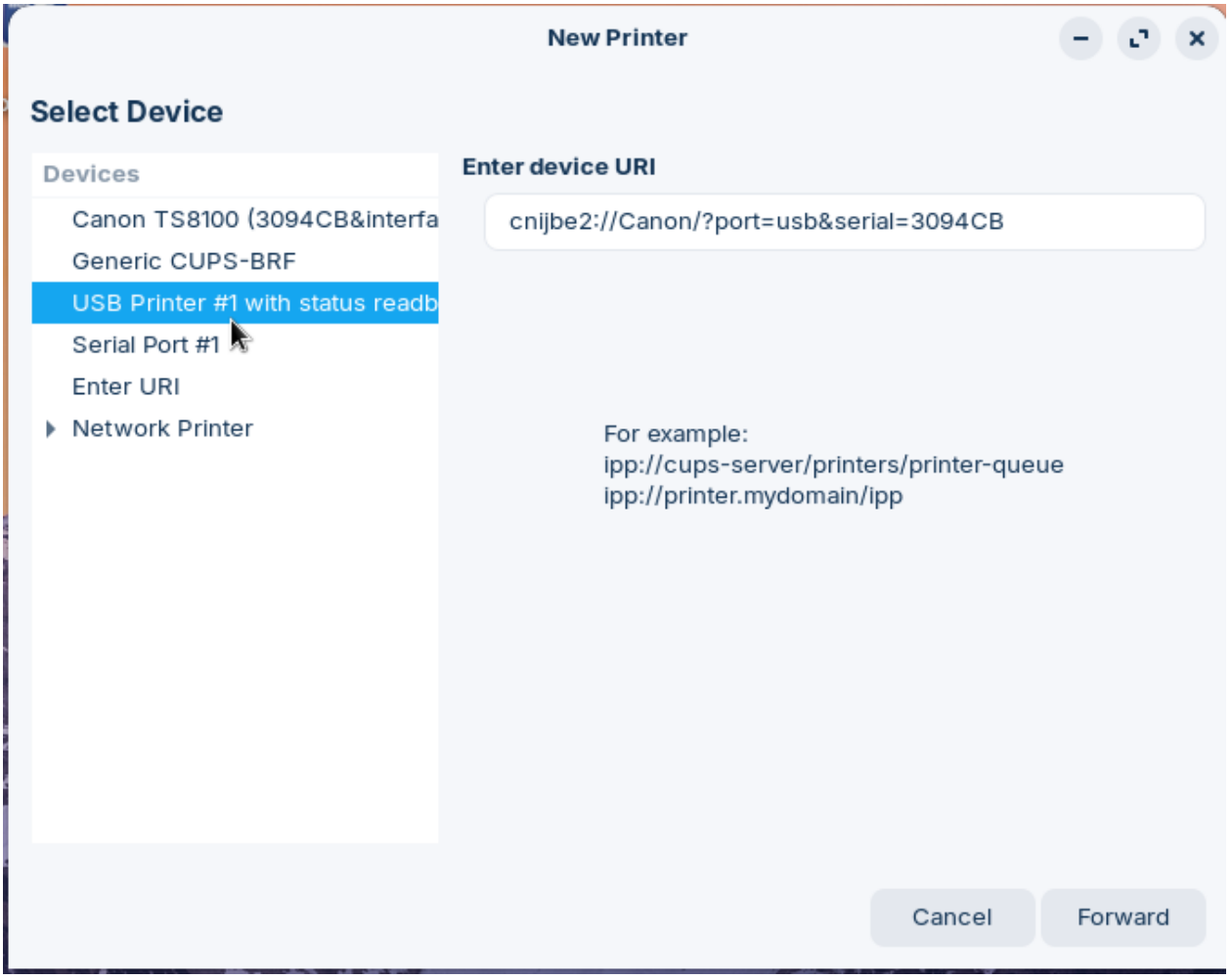


If you see something like the top entry here, you may think Printers application has detected the printer is connected via USB, but it is driverless:



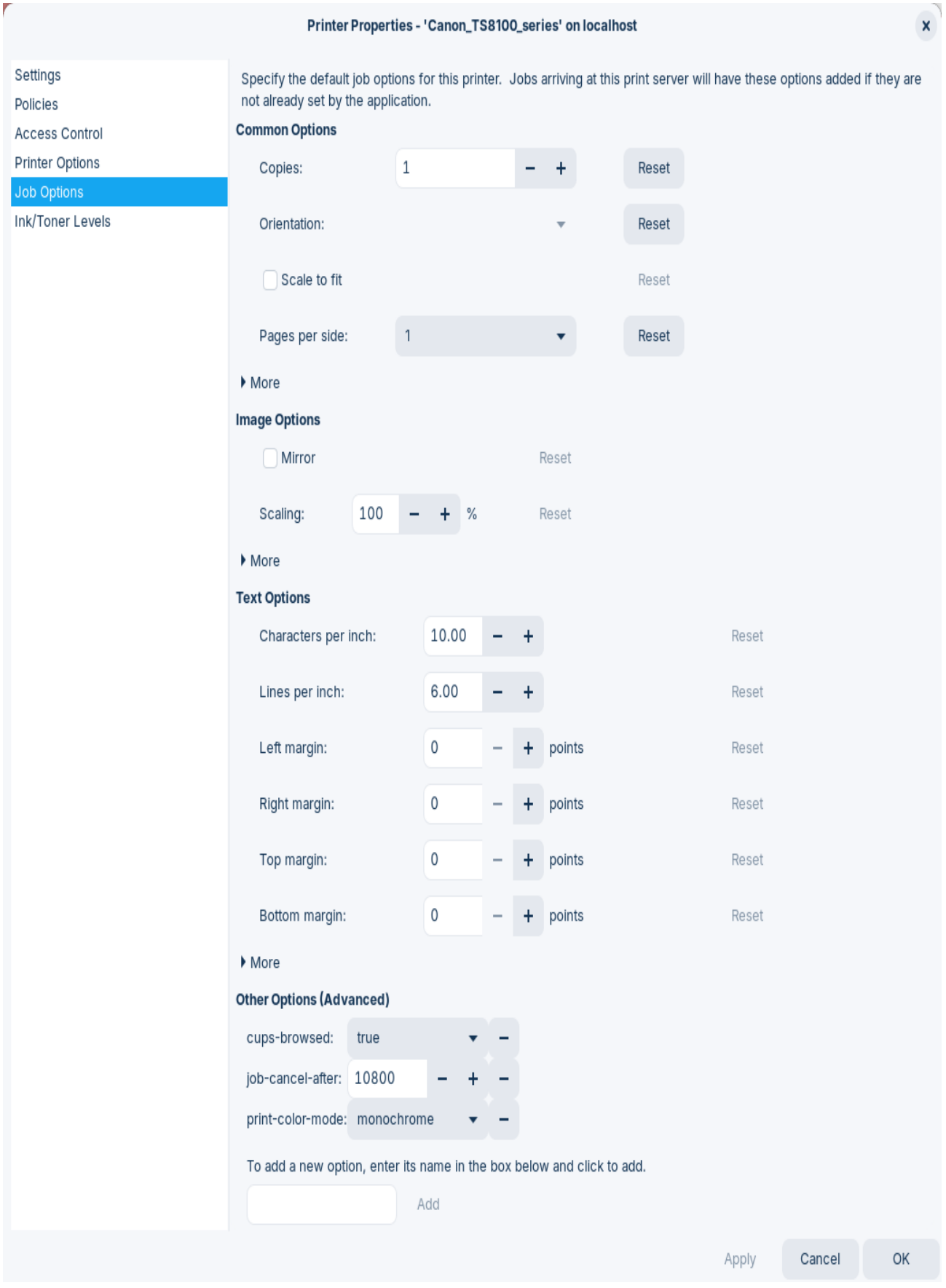
Then select the Forward Button and a new window appears with Choose Driver as shown on the next page.

Just as we did for the Scanner driver we need to extract the tarball and install the amd64.deb file from packages.
Launching via command line again things have changed!

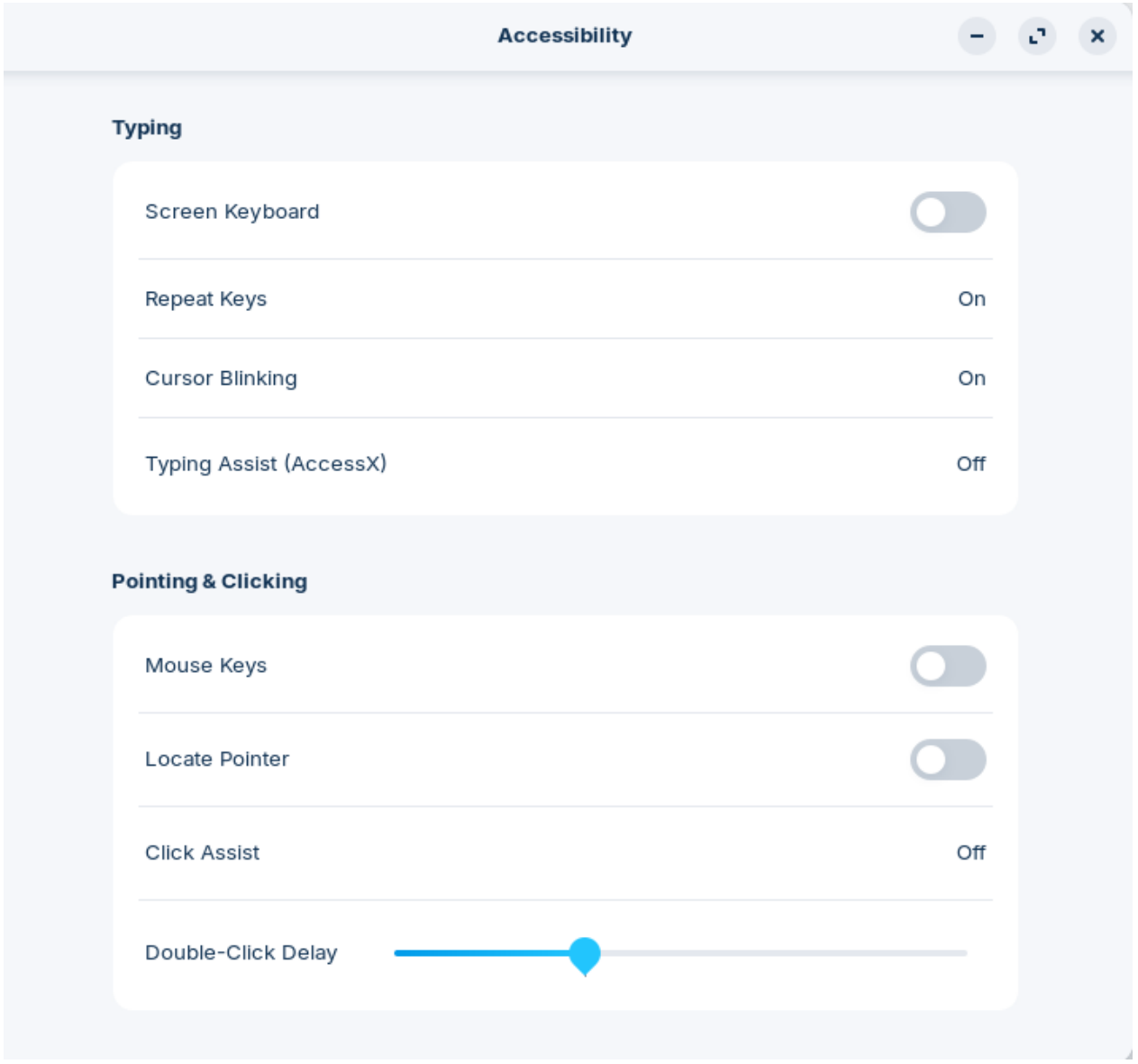


A new entry has appeared, and if we click on forward:

Job Options:


Printer Properties - 'Canon_TS8100_series' on localhost
Settings
Policies
Access Control
Printer Options
Job Options
Ink/Toner Levels
Specify the default job options for this printer. Jobs arriving at this print server will have these options added if they are not already set by the application.
Common Options
Copies: 1
Reset
Orientation:
Reset
Scale to fit
Reset
Pages per side: 1
Reset
More
Image Options
Mirror
Reset
Scaling: 100 %
Reset
More
Text Options
Characters per inch: 10.00
Reset
Lines per inch: 6.00
Reset
Left margin: 0 points
Reset
Right margin: 0 points
Reset
Top margin: 0 points
Reset
Bottom margin: 0 points
Reset
More
Other Options (Advanced)
cups-browsed: true
job-cancel-after: 10800
print-color-mode: monochrome
To add a new option, enter its name in the box below and click to add.
Add
Apply
Cancel
OK

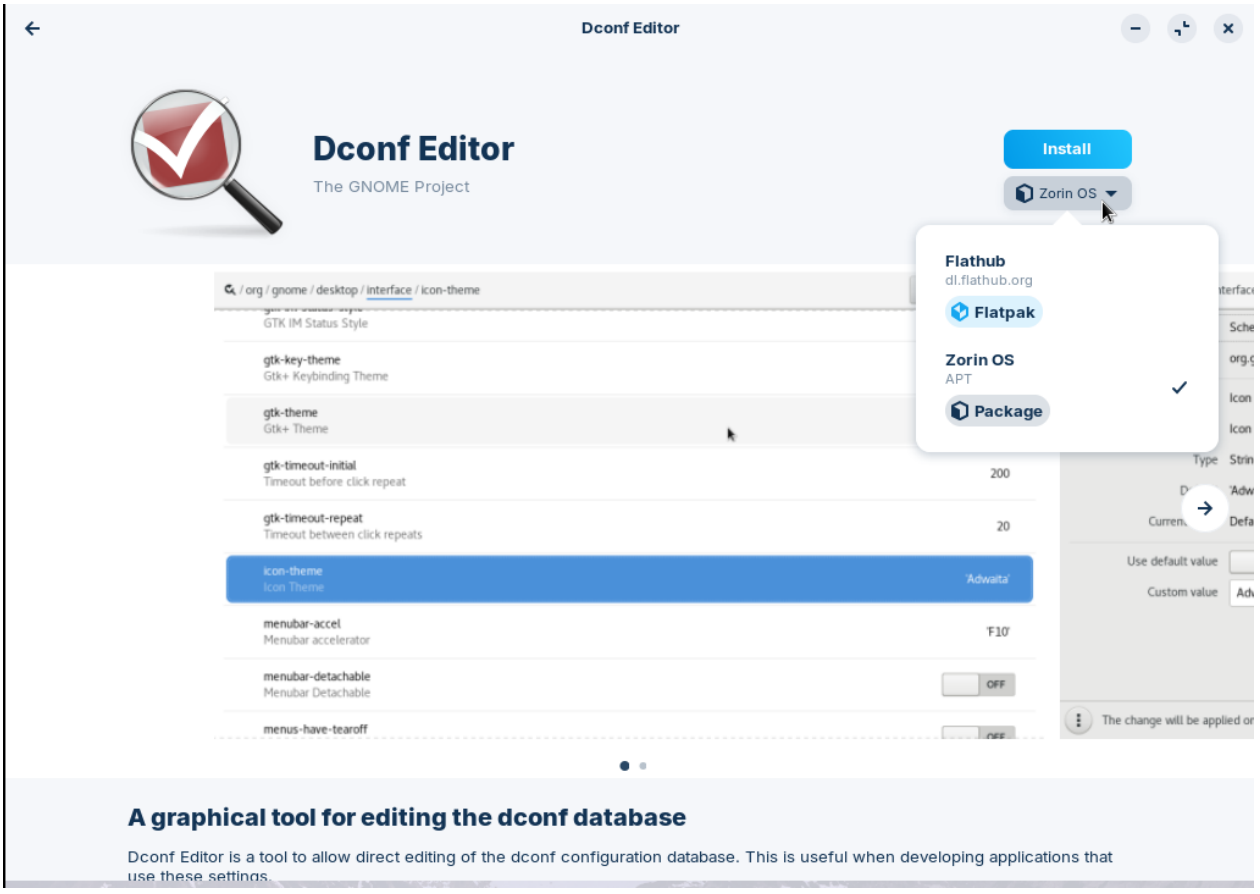
Accessibility (bottom half)



d. Dconf Editor

This is particularly useful for changing desktop settings. It s layout reminds me of a registry editor, but it is in no way shape or form a registry editor. You are warned that messing with settings in dconf Editor could make the system unstable so be careful what you do with it.

Entry in Software Channel.



6. Accessibility:

One of the great things about Zorin is that its Accessibility options are available at the login screen. (OK , I can hear you say, that has always been the case with Windows 7!). That is true but how many operating systems come with a free fully functional screen reader built into the OS at no cost to the end user? The options are shown in the screenshot below:

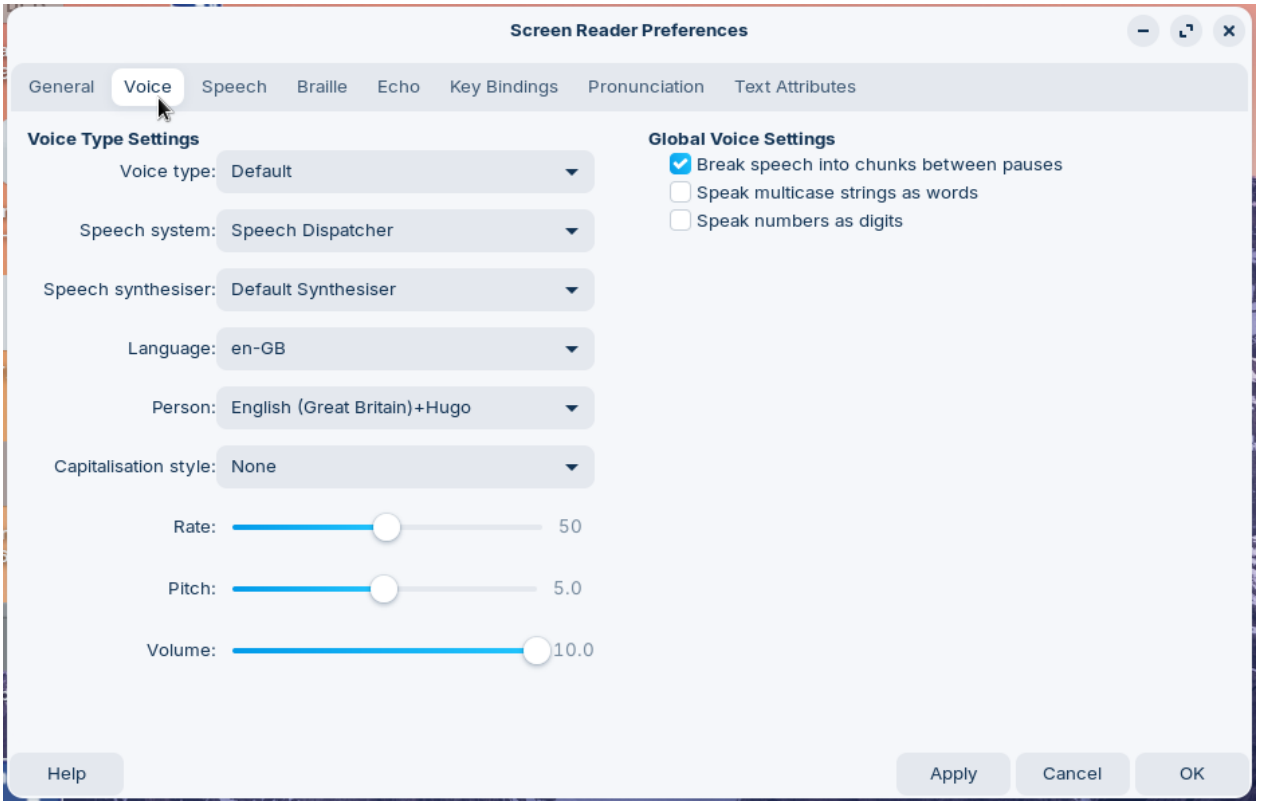


All the options available are currently switched off in the picture above: High Contrast (Top/First option), Zoom, Large Text, Screen Reader, Screen Keyboard, Visual Alerts, Sticky Keys, Slow Keys, Bounce Keys, Mouse Keys. To turn a function on, simply press the space bar. At present I cannot discover if the menu or right-mouse key key will activate the accessibility menu as I am using a gaming keyboard which has a backlight key where normally a right-mouse button key would reside. However, using Alt+ Super+ S will start the screen reader function.

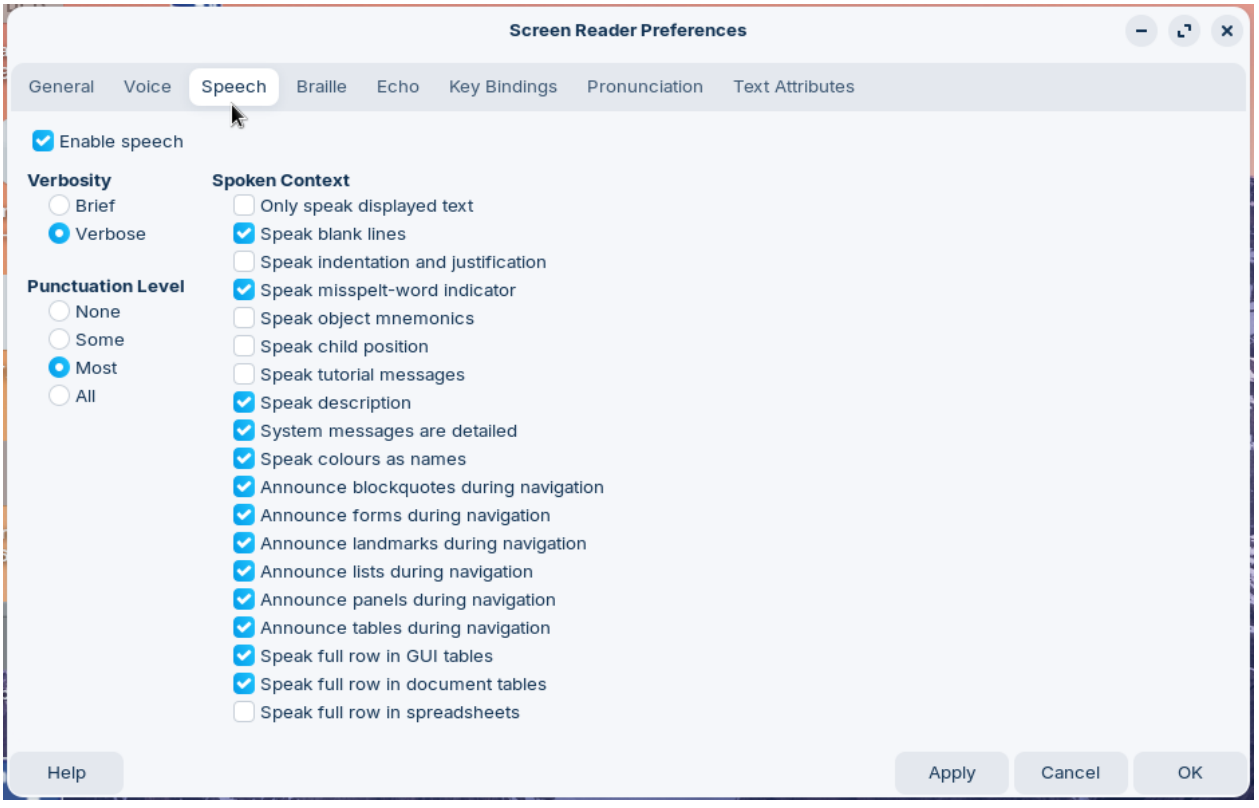
Full details here:

https://help.gnome.org/users/gnome-help/stable/a11y.html.en

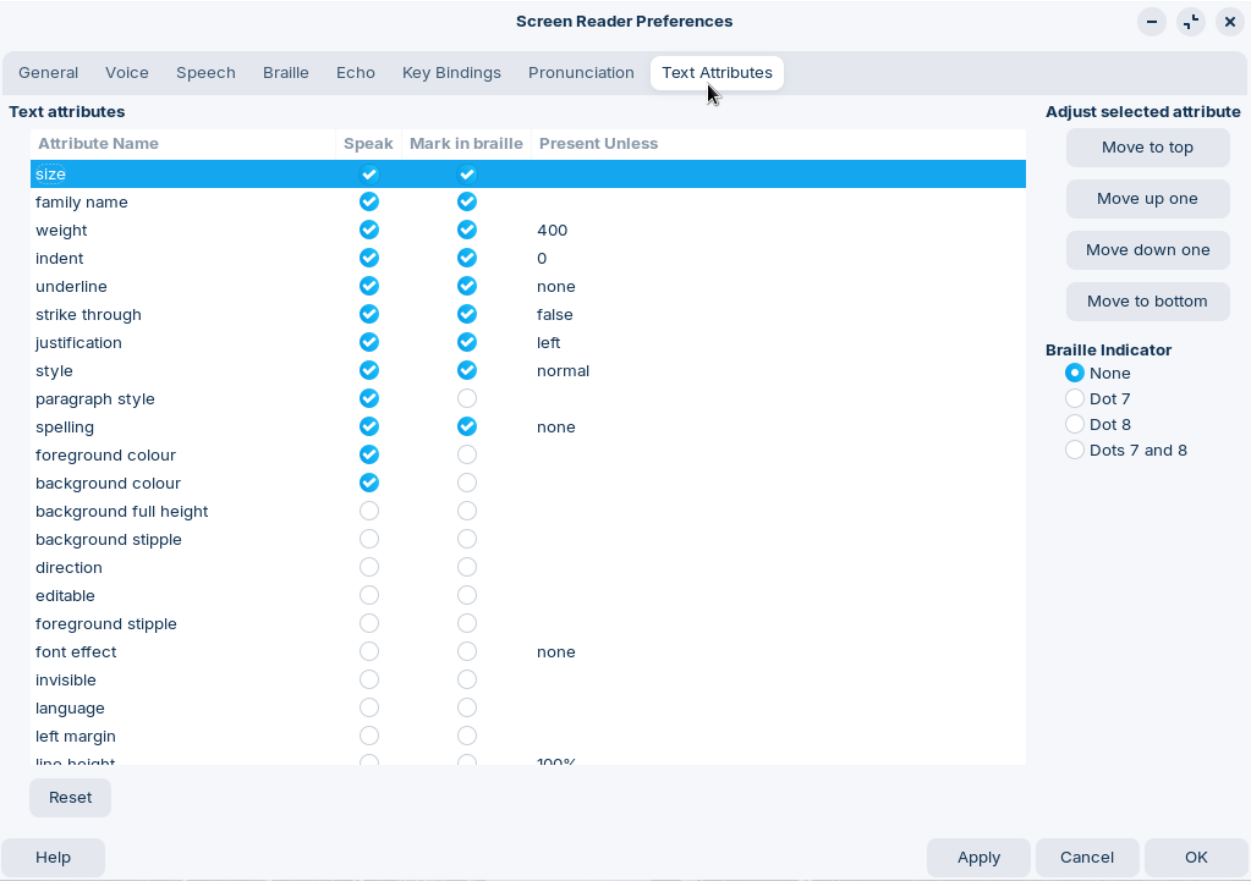
Choice of Voice: Voice Type Settings, Global Voice Settings



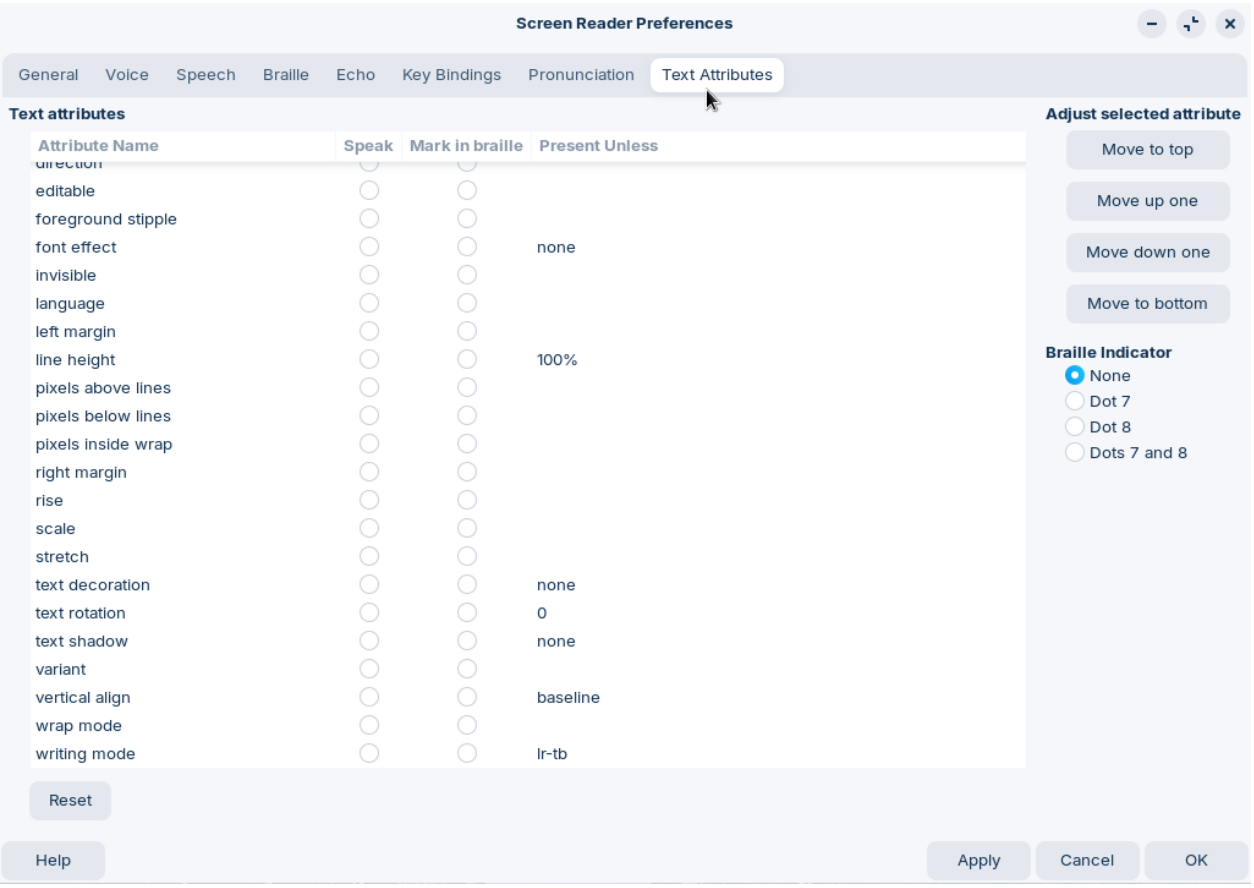
Speech Settings: Verbosity, Punctuation Level, Spoken Context.



Text Attributes (top):

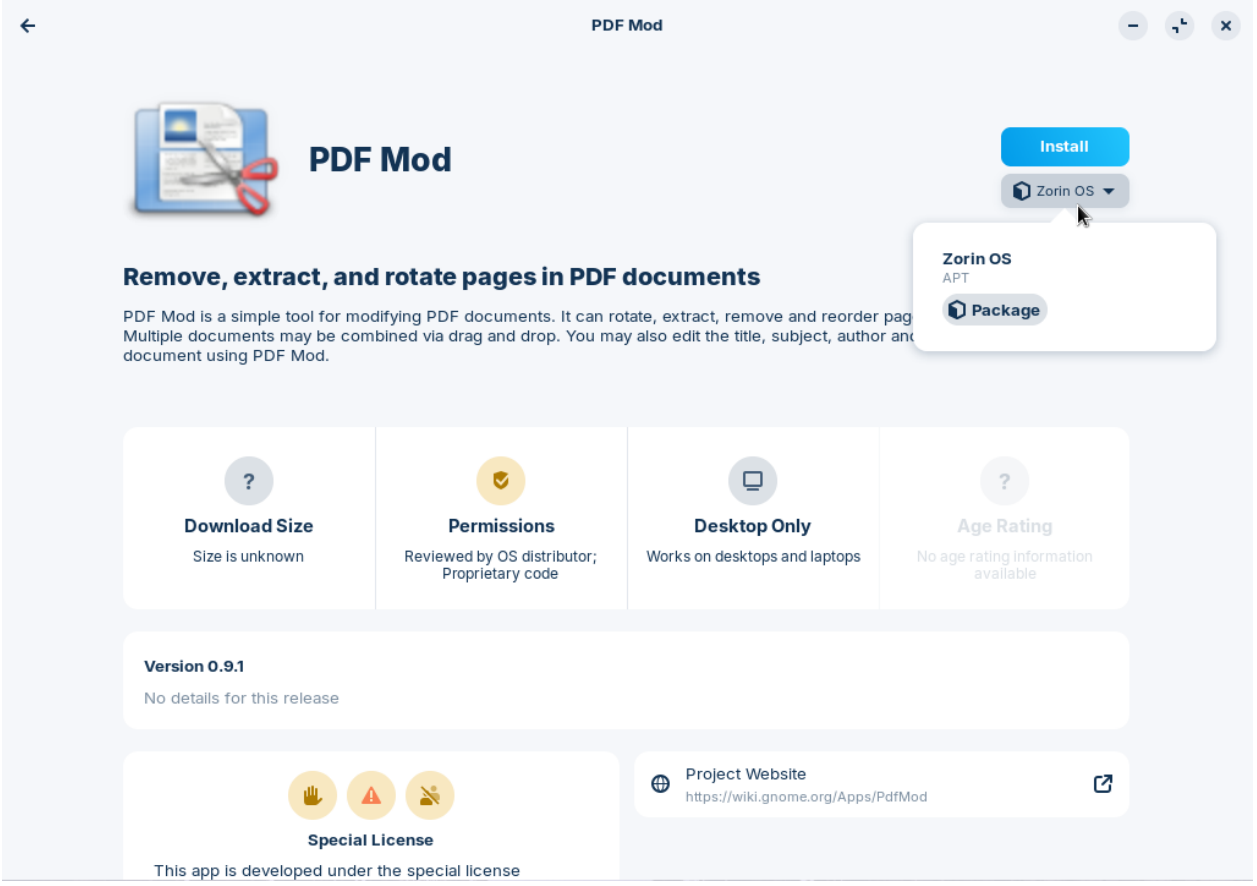


Text Attributes (bottom):

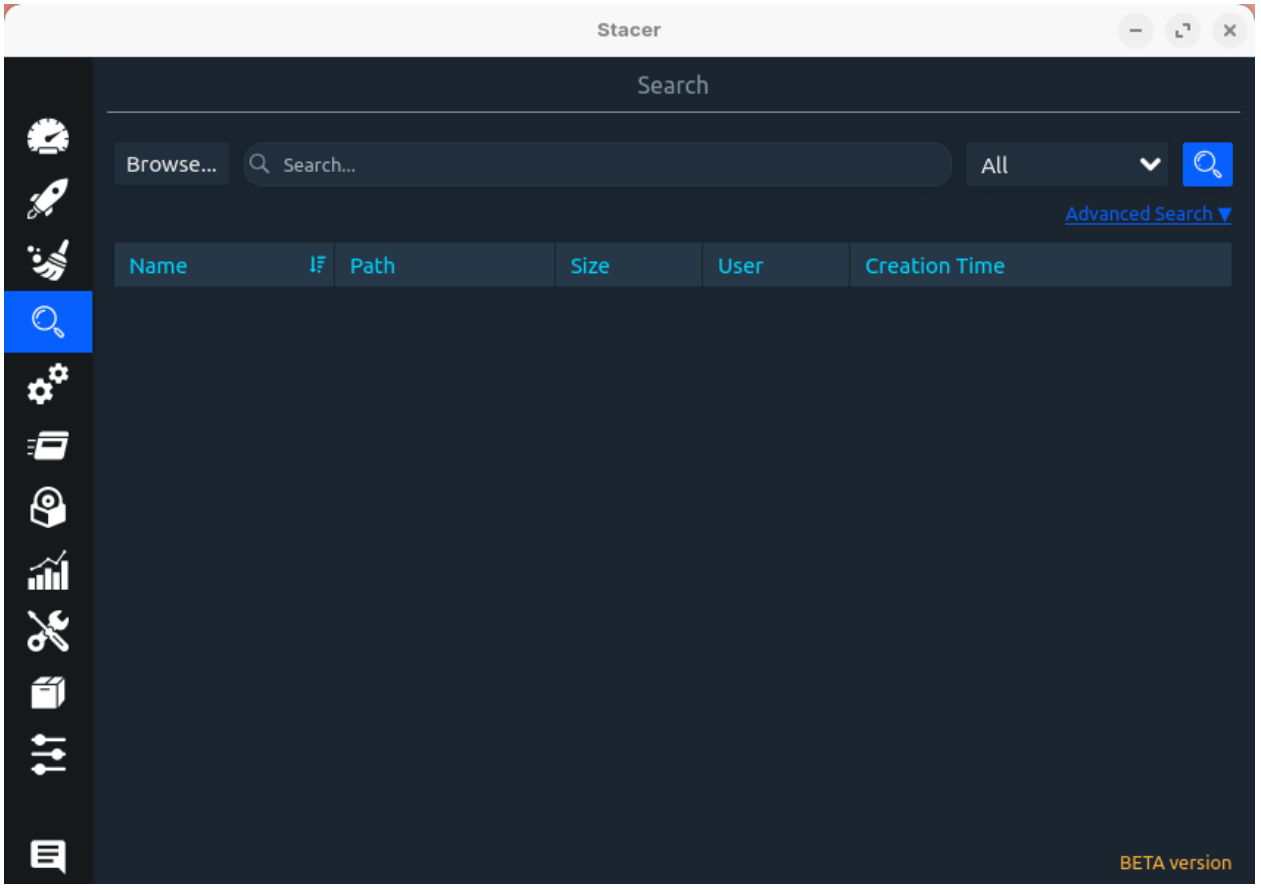


7. Recommended Applications:

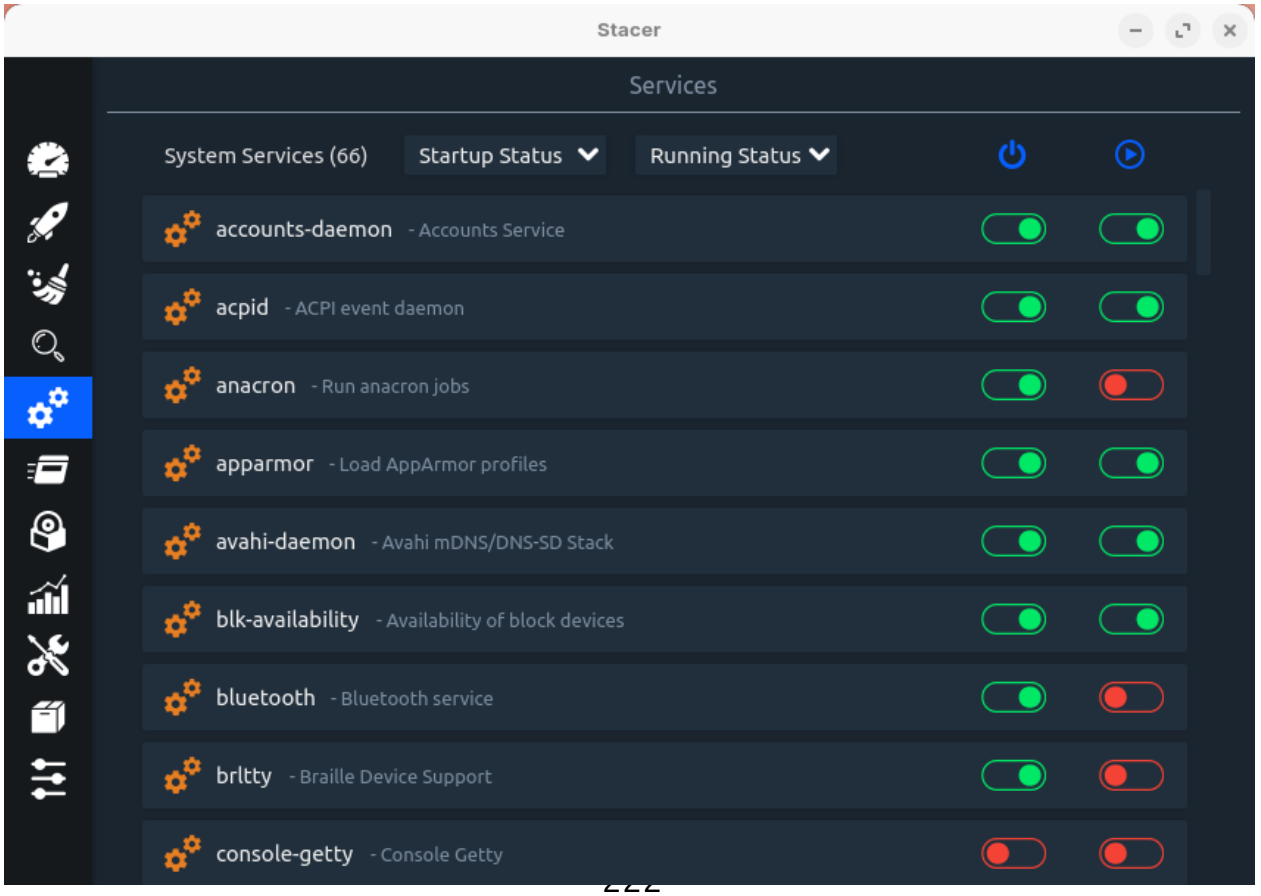
a. PDF Mod (by Novell, the makers of Open SuSE): Available from Software or via Synaptic.



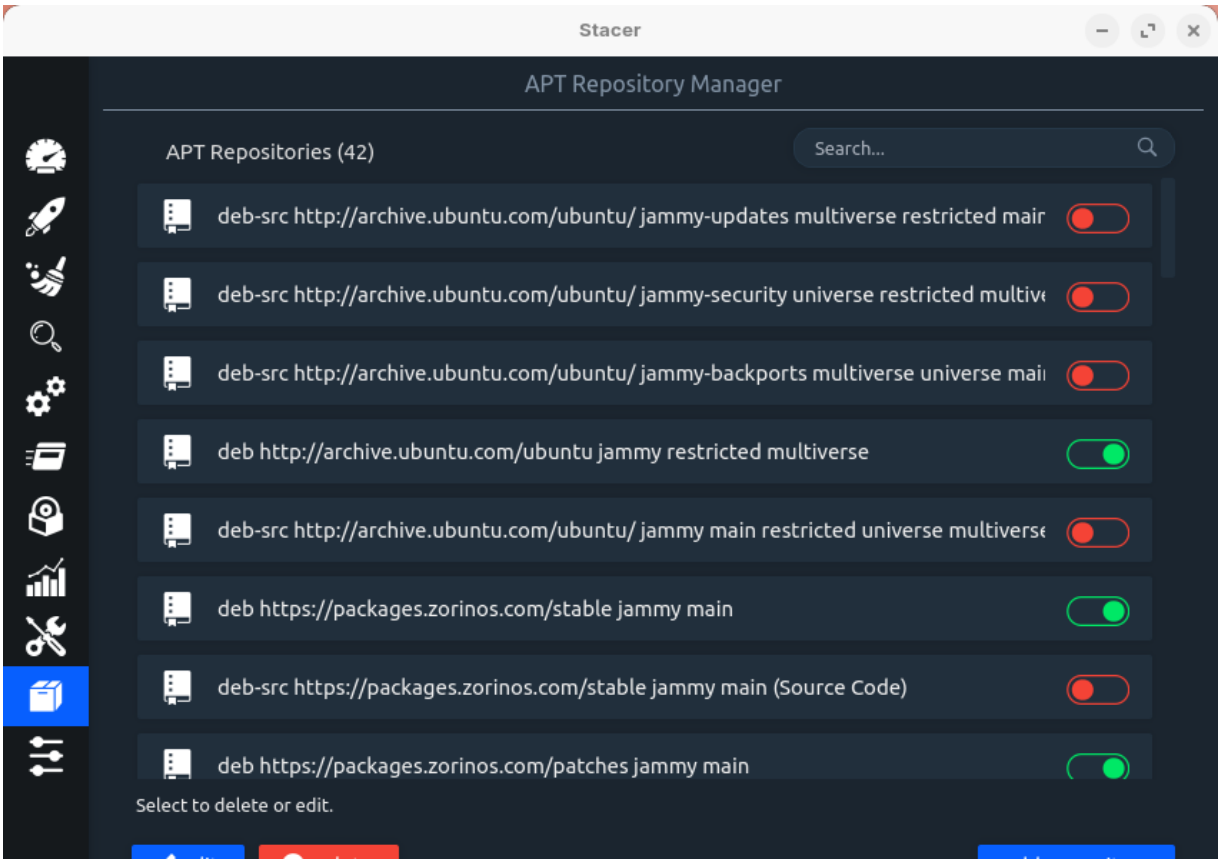
Search (Beta):



Services:



APT Repository Manager:



Settings:

